

THE North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXXII., No. 864. SHANGHAI, JANUARY 23, 1884. PRICE, Tls. 12 ½ AN.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE.
A DVICE to Invalids.—If you wish to obtain a quiet, refreshing sleep, free from headache, relief from pain and anguish, to calm and assuage the weary aching of protracted disease, invigorate the nervous media, and regulate the circulating systems of the body, you will provide yourself with that marvellous remedy discovered by Dr. J. Collis Browne (late Army Medical Staff), to which he gave the name of CHLORODYNE, and which is admitted by the profession to be the most wonderful and valuable remedy ever discovered.

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CHLORODYNE effectually cuts short all attacks of Epilepsy, Hysteria, Palpitation, and Spasms.

CHLORODYNE is the only palliative in Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Gout, Cancer, Toothache, Meningitis, &c.

From Symes & Co., Pharmaceutical Chemists, Medical Hall, Simla, January 5, 1880. To J. T. Davenport, Esq., 33, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, London. Dear Sir,—We embrace this opportunity of congratulating you upon the wide-spread reputation this justly esteemed medicine, Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne, has earned for itself, not only in Hindostan, but all over the East. As a remedy of general utility, we much question whether a better is imported into the country, and we shall be glad to hear of its finding a place in every Anglo-Indian home. The other brands, we are happy to say, are now relegated to the native bazaars, and, judging from their sale, we fancy their sojourn there will be but evanescent. We could multiply instances *ad infinitum* of the extraordinary efficacy of Dr. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne in Diarrhoea and Dysentery, Spasms, Cramps, Neuralgia, the Vomiting of Pregnancy, and as a general sedative, that have occurred under our personal observation during many years. In Choleraic Diarrhoea, and even in the more terrible forms of Cholera itself, we have witnessed its surprisingly controlling power. We have never used any other form of this medicine than Collis Browne's, from a firm conviction that it is decidedly the best, and also from a sense of duty we owe to the profession and the public, as we are of opinion that the substitution of any other than Collis Browne's is a DELIBERATE BREACH OF FAITH ON THE PART OF THE CHEMIST TO PRESCRIBER AND PATIENT ALIKE. We are, Sir, faithfully yours, Symes & Co., Members of the Pharm. Society of Great Britain, His Excellency the Viceroy's Chemists.

CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of CHLORODYNE; that the story of the defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, has been sworn to.—See *Times*, July 13, 1864.

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J. P. COWLES, JR., TEA-INSPECTOR, PACKER and SHIPPER, FOOCHOW.

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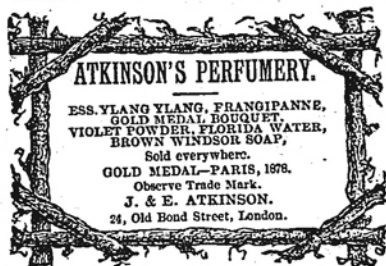
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NOTICE.

WE are glad to inform our Subscribers in the Northern Ports that we have made arrangement with the Chinese Postal Service for the delivery of the *North-China Daily News* and *North-China Herald* per Overland Courier, as soon as the Ports are closed. The postages will be collected on delivery of papers.

North-China Herald Office,
Shanghai, 1st Nov., 1883.

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5th Dec., 1883.

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In the hand-to-hand struggle for exis-
tence, in the present day, good health is
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performed that life itself seems most precar-
ious. The Stomach has its many maladies
removed by a judicious use of the Pills,—the
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secretion,—the Kidneys are kindly encouraged
to greater activity,—the Bowels are gently
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digestion is placed at its natural standard and
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that, if health can possibly be restored, these
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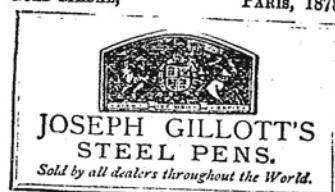
Has there ever been a malignant sore, an
old ulcer, or a wound of any kind to which
this unrivalled "Heal all" has been applied
in vain; "certainly not," answer grateful
thousands. Even those ulcerous sores arising
from nameless causes which sap the very
existence of the young and strongest, and
which a course of Mercury can never cure,
always yield to the influence of this renowned
Ointment, when perseveringly used in con-
junction with the Pills.

For aches or pains, contracted and stiff
joints,—for coughs and colds (which latter
often settle upon the chest, producing fatal
consequences) let the afflicted parts be effec-
tually rubbed with the Ointment, as salt is
into meat, and a certain cure will only be a
question of time and patience.

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GOLD MEDAL,

PARIS, 1878.



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THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXXII., No. 864. SHANGHAI, JANUARY 23, 1884. PRICE, Tls. 12 7/8 AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, ...	Dec. 7	Hankow, ...	Jan. 19
Sau Francisco	22	Yokohama, ...	16
Hongkong, ...	Jan. 16	Nagasaki, ...	21
Tientsin, ...	1	Foochow, ...	18

The English mail of 5th December arrived in London on the 16th January.

BIRTH.

At Shanghai, on the 15th January, Mrs. A. BAUMANN, of a daughter.

DEATH.

At Shanghai General Hospital, on the 22nd January, GEORGE JAMES ROGERS, aged 19 years.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Thermometer in shade.		Hygrometer at 9 A.M.		WIND.		Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours
	8 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Force.	Direction.	
Jan. 17	30.35	36.5	46.0	34.0	36.0	34.5	2	North	0.10
18	30.31	29.5	42.5	27.5	29.0	27.5	1	N.W.	...
19	30.35	37.5	43.0	29.5	37.0	35.0	1	East	...
20	30.45	34.5	45.0	31.0	34.0	31.0	4	S.E.	...
21	30.44	35.0	59.5	30.0	31.5	33.0	1	East	...
22	30.22	47.0	47.0	40.0	46.5	44.5	2	S.E.	...
23	30.10	45.5	67.0	44.0	45.0	44.0	3	North	...

EXPLANATION.
 Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull) r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm: Force from 1 to 21 estimated.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23, 1884.

NEGOTIATIONS between M. Ferry and the Marquis Ts'eng were resumed in Paris on the 19th November, when the Chinese Ambassador forwarded a copy of a memorandum addressed by his Government to the French Chargé d'Affaires in Peking. This document commences with a statement of the Chinese claims to suzerainty over Annam. It then states the desire of the Imperial Government for peace, and its unwillingness to break off the amicable relations long existing between it and France. But if, it goes on to say, the French Government "renouncing, as it seems to us, the feelings of honour and justice, were resolved at any cost to trespass on the places occupied by the Imperial troops in Tonquin, it would be the French Cabinet which would resolve to break the peace." There is a different translation of this passage given by the *Times*, in which the Peking Cabinet is made to say that if the French Government "without heed of its reputation and honour" resolves on these encroachments, it will be it which will have resolved on breaking the peace. In his reply to this memorandum M. Ferry takes exception to the phrase, "the French Government seems to renounce feelings of honour and justice," which he says is doubtless a mistranslation, that, moreover, does not appear in the text telegraphed by the French Chargé d'Affaires at Peking. The Marquis does not appear to have taken notice of this expression, which the French Cabinet were unable to accept, or of the discrepancy between his memorandum and the original of the same handed to the

French Embassy in Peking. In his reply he draws attention to a statement which M. Ferry had made in the Chamber of Deputies, in which he eulogized "the profound instinct which had led his predecessors towards the mouth of the Red River, and which showed them as the goal the possession of Tonquin." This declaration had created a very painful impression on the Peking Government, who regarded it as a new departure in French politics. And it certainly has all that appearance when we remember that the French Cabinet had frequently declared that it relied on its treaties with the King of Annam, and had no intention of conquering or taking possession of the country. M. Ferry explains away his language in his next despatch, in which he says that his Government has no intention of conquest, but merely intended to insure, by strengthening the protectorate of 1874, "the free navigation of the Songkoi" and the security requisite to the development of commercial relations in Tonquin. "I held up," he writes, "the peaceful conquest of that region and the possession of Tonquin as the goal of our policy. It was in the same sense that I recalled at the same moment the long existing accord between European nations, that the conquest of China with her four hundred million inhabitants should be made by European products and producers." This "expansion of his idea" M. Ferry ventures to think will allow no further doubt to exist in the mind of the Chinese Ambassador. Unfortunately the extracts from the Yellow Book, from which we have been quoting, do not give the reply to this expansion of the idea of M. Ferry. We do not think that the Chamber of Deputies understood M. Ferry to mean that Tonquin was to be possessed by their compatriots solely as dealers in French wares. They saw more in the future than the establishment of a few *magazines de nouveautés*. And M. Ferry's words were understood in England to mean that he and his colleagues intended the actual conquest of Tonquin. The French Foreign Secretary, commenting on the renewed proposal of the Marquis Ts'eng, that there should be a line of demarcation between the armies quartered at Hauoi and Soutay and the towns situated on the left and right banks of the Red River, points out that at the time when this proposal was originally made—on 1st August—the Marquis stated that there

were no Chinese troops in Tonquin. The proposal of the Chinese ambassador was therefore utterly inapplicable to the state of affairs in Tonquin which he then described. There could be no risk of conflict between the French and Chinese troops in August if there were none of the latter in Tonquin. Having pointed this out, M. Ferry went on to say that if the Chinese drew near the fortresses which were our (the French) object, they would be treated as allies of the Annamese.

Commenting on these papers the Paris Correspondent of the *Times* writes, "it is probable that the Chinese will await the French neither at Bacninh nor at Sontay." We know that they did not take part in the defence of Sontay, and it would be strange news if we heard by and by that they had not awaited the arrival of the French at Bacninh. Further, the same writer says that it was the French who were disposed in December to make concessions to Chinese dignity, and China which reckoned on some European antagonism, or some parliamentary misunderstanding, to assist her. He suggests that the Chinese, like the French, wish Bacninh to fall in order to have a plausible excuse for coming to an understanding. Singular as are the ways of the Peking Government we cannot think there is any grain of probability in this suggestion. That would be waiting until her impotence had been displayed to the world, whereas if she meant not to resort to arms, she might find ground on which to come to an understanding with France without incurring the disgrace which would attach to her if she allowed Bacninh to fall and at once made terms. It is evident that people at home are beginning to see that China was doing all she could to delay any settlement with France. Her officials have been counting on a divergence of opinion between the European Powers which would bring support to their views. Nothing of the kind has occurred. Lord Granville had not offered mediation, though politely willing to do anything in his power to end this quarrel without blows. A semi-official communiqué in a Berlin paper of 5th December says that Germany held aloof from the whole question in dispute between France and China. All the European Powers, no doubt, wish that peace may be preserved, but none of them seem inclined to go out of their way to help China. They appear to be wearied of the procrastination of Peking, which has caused the loss of promising opportunities for a settlement of the differences between China and France. China seems to be now as friendless in Europe as when Li Hung-chang complained, while in Shanghai last summer, that the sympathies of all foreigners were turned from her. She has not gone the right way to work to recover these, and if her Cabinet can be made to understand this they may be induced to become

reasonable. The state of suspense in which their dilatoriness keeps all the Powers whose subjects have large interests in China may become intolerable before long, and compel some of them to make such remonstrances to the Tsung-li Yamén as will require prompt action from it. That would lower the status of China more than defeat in war would, and bring her nearer to the equivalent position in the east to that occupied by Turkey in the west—a sick man, from whom those take who have the power. It is not to the interest of any other nation that such a deplorable state of affairs should be brought about by the folly of officials, who do not understand the gravity of the crisis into which their country has been led.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 9th December arrived here on the 19th inst. by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Ocus*.

A mail for Europe leaves to-morrow morning by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Djemnah*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED SOLELY TO "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

London, 15th January.

The Marquis Tseng has arrived in Paris.

The *Times* denies the statement of the *Gaulois*.

16th January.

Mr. Chamberlain in a speech at Newcastle said that the British Government would adhere to the British evacuation of Egypt as soon as the reorganization of the Egyptian administration was accomplished.

17th January.

Baker Pasha meditates the transfer of the base of operations to Massowah. The Abyssinians are friendly.

18th January.

The Governor-General of the Soudan has telegraphed to headquarters that the insurgents have cut off the retreat of the Garrisons in the province of Sennaar and rendered the Nile impassable a little below Duam.

19th January.

General "Chinese" Gordon has started for Egypt on a special mission.

General Gordon has accepted the special mission on condition that he is responsible alone to the British Government.

21st January.

M. Giers has arrived at Vienna and had an audience of the Emperor.

Baker Pasha is parleying successfully with the Sheikhs around Suakim, of whom several have come in.

Mr. Martins, Consul-General for the Brazils, arrived at Shanghai by the *Ocus* on Saturday. He was accompanied by Messrs. Pontes and J. Martins.

Sir Richard T. Rennie returned to Shanghai from the River Ports by the *Ngenkin* on the 20th inst.

Mr. Tong King-sing, Mr. Butler, and Captain Bolton, all of the C.M.S.N. Co.,

returned to Shanghai by the *Ocus* on Saturday.

We learn that a report was current in Hongkong two or three days ago, that the attack on Bacninh would be made on the 15th instant.

A very generous entertainment was provided for the children of the local Sunday-schools by the congregation of Union Church on Thursday afternoon in the Temperance Hall. Three large Szechow tubs, full of presents, were made to disgorge their treasures, and the distribution of these lasted a considerable time. An admirable magic-lantern exhibition concluded the proceedings, which were most successful throughout, to judge by the shrieks of delight which ever and anon bore witness to the enjoyment of the children.

The result of the Municipal Elections was made known yesterday afternoon at four o'clock, and is on the whole very satisfactory. The following are the official returns:—

Keswick, J. J.	130
Vouillemont, E. G.	122
Mackenzie, Robt.	121
Holliday, Chas. J.	109
Burman, Andrew	104
Cory, J. M.	101
Major, Ernest	90
Arnhold, Ph.	93
Myburgh, Alex.	85

Kingsmill, T. W.	67
Nathan, S. A.	49
Francis, Robt.	45
Moses, M. M.	35

The first nine gentlemen, therefore, are elected. Two tickets were thrown out for irregularity. 147 votes were recorded in all.

We venture to predict that a thorough overhauling and cleansing of the rickety old shed which does duty for a Custom-house will soon be an imperative necessity. Insupportable in summer, it is unwholesome all the year round, and complaints have reached us of exhalations from the premises which are best described by the name of stench. If the place is to be perpetuated at all, it ought to have all the floors taken up and be subjected to a thorough cleansing with chloride of lime or carbolic acid. It is not our province to write on behalf of those who pass their days there from nine till four, though their lot can scarcely be a foretaste of Paradise; we are thinking of those who live in the neighbourhood, in houses where fevers and other deadly diseases occasionally break out without any assignable cause. It is on public grounds that we advocate the overhauling of the Custom-house, and even, if necessary, its being replaced by a less tumble-down and uninhabitable structure than the present.

The first prize in the New Year's Card Competition of the Shanghai Art Society has fallen to the designer of a card on which a cluster of bamboo berries and leaves overhangs a snowy landscape. The drawing is exceedingly good, and the general effect is very pretty, though there is nothing strikingly original about the design. The second prize goes to the group of little cards showing the various modes of carrying the mail-bags, and the third is taken by the sketch of a little girl holding up a child to post a letter. The second and third prizes have been won, we believe, by the same artist.

We are not informed of all the circumstances attending the matter on which a lady appeals to us from Ningpo. It appears, however, that she received a pair of boots on approval from a local store, and found them of an inferior description; this she pointed out to them in a note, which, in the absence of this document, we may conclude was of an unpalatable nature. Nothing, however, can excuse the rudeness and impertinence of the reply, coming as it did from a respectable firm of storekeepers to a lady.

The question of ice appears to be a somewhat burning question in Shanghai just now. There is one point, however, which none of our Correspondents have done much to clear up. Is the machine fully available for ice-manufacture? If it is, there seems to us nothing to justify the closing of the company and sale of the plant. If not, why was a defective machine bought? We shall probably be told that the machine can make ice, but that the process is too expensive. This means that there has been local mismanagement, for, as a Correspondent points out, ice-making has succeeded well enough elsewhere. We suppose the mischief lies in the fact that non-experts have been attempting to do that which experts alone can do properly; and if the ice-machine is to be profitably utilised the first desideratum is to find somebody who understands how to work it.

With regard to the ice question, Messrs. Mackenzie & Co. point out to us that people generally are confounding two machines. The first that was purchased, a Holder's, was a failure, and moreover required chemicals that were difficult if not impossible to obtain. A Beckwith's was then bought under a guarantee that it would work, and as a fact it did work and made good ice; but the public preferred to get their ice from natives at a lower charge, and the shareholders, seeing how uncertain support was, decided to dissolve the company. Some consumers maintain that with properly constructed ice-boxes, and a little ordinary care, the manufactured ice is the cheapest, and it certainly is the cleanest and safest for domestic use; but consumers are usually careless about these matters, and leave the management in the hands of their house-boys, whose interests are not always in harmony with such a foreign enterprise as this.

A fire broke out in a row of buildings to the west of Chapoo Road on Thursday night at about half-past eleven o'clock. Many of the firemen were attending the Masonic Ball at the time, consequently the engines were not turned out so promptly as usual because the alarm was not heard at first. The Police were early on the spot with a small hand-engine, and they took water from a pond close to the rear of the burning buildings. By the time the Fire Brigade engines arrived, the roofs of the houses had fallen in, but the firemen, once on the ground, speedily got to work and prevented the flames spreading. The burning houses were in the centre of a block of buildings, and were bounded by substantial fire walls which confined the limits of the flames. The property belonged to Poh Yuen Cheong. Only three engines played on the flames, which consumed six houses. A fireman and a policeman had a very narrow escape. They were standing on the upper floor of one of the houses, when the roof, without any warning, came down on top of them, but they managed to get out without receiving much injury. It is reported that another fireman had a finger broken.

Thursday last was the commencement of the period during which Chinese official seals are locked up at new year; there was no session of the Mixed Courts. The seals are supposed to be locked up for one month and one day.

It was rumoured in the settlements on Sunday that the Chinese had blocked up the Canton river, and that Admiral Davis had given orders to the Commander of the *Essex* at Canton to remove the obstruction. We believe a telegram was received by the American Admiral and replied to by him, but at present the obstruction referred to does not exist, so that it cannot be blown up. On the 16th instant the *Fly*, *Zephyr*, *Essex*, *Lutin*, and *Wolf* were at Canton, and it is evident that the Commanders would not allow themselves to be blocked in the river without making an effort to prevent the restriction of their liberty.

We have made enquiries with reference to the reported finding of two more of the

crew of the *Hwaiyuen*, but have been unable to ascertain anything whatever on the subject. The C. M. S. N. Co. have no information. If any more of the *Hwaiyuen*'s crew had been saved, it would be only natural to suppose that they would go to the office of the agents of the steamer.

A subscription-list is being circulated for the relief of the widows and orphans of the unfortunate men who were drowned in the *Hwaiyuen*. Some generous donations have already been made, but a very great deal more money is required, and we trust the community will respond to the application, which well deserves the charity of all.

The German gunboat *Illis* returned to Shanghai on the 20th inst. from Hongkong. The tugboat *Fuhle*, with divers, left for the wreck of the *Hwaiyuen* on Friday.

We have to acknowledge receipt of the Customs List of Chinese lighthouses, light-vessels, buoys and beacons, just issued by order of the Inspector General. This return includes a chart showing the lights on the coast, on which are marked the limits of the Customs districts. A new light has been placed during the year on the South East Promontory of Shantung where a first-class siren, giving a blast of four seconds duration at intervals of one and a half minutes, will be sounded during thick or foggy weather. Another new light has been established on the South Cape of Formosa, where in thick or foggy weather two guns will be fired with an interval of three minutes between them, on the keepers hearing sounds indicating the proximity of a vessel, and if the vessel's fog signal is still heard the firing will be repeated after a space of eight minutes.

We acknowledge receipt of a pamphlet entitled 'Le Conflit entre la France et la Chine,' by M. Henri Cordier.

We acknowledge receipt of a copy of the *Imperial Review*, a monthly magazine published at Melbourne. The articles are no less than thirty-nine in number, and deal with the most varied subjects. They are not remarkable for any special excellence of style, but are written brightly and attractively. In an article on 'Live Novels' the author speaks of a work by Georges Sand having been "wrought as with a thong"—whatever that may mean—and is good enough to compare Miss Burney with the author of 'Democracy.' An historical critic informs us that the husband of Queen Isabella was "a miserable sprat." Another writer speaks of the Rothschilds "fester in wealth," while a fourth favours us with an original and most astonishing sample of the table-talk of William Shakespeare, who is reported by a medium to have said, "There is a trick of writing anything *apropos* of anything else whatever. This was the secret of my being so prolific." These little eccentricities save the *Imperial Review* from the reproach of dullness.

The absurd rumour that the men-of-war's men from the United States ships have been holding midnight parades on shore is hardly worth contradicting. How the rumour originated it is hard to tell, unless the serene parties of residents who perambulated the settlements last week have been confounded with American sailors.

When Tung-ka-doo Dock was pumped out on Wednesday, it was found that there was, in addition to the other damage, a hole on the port side of the *Scatow*, abaft of the foremast, which is supposed to have been caused by the vessel sitting on the rocks at Soudan Island. The hole is large enough to admit three fingers of a man's hand. Twenty one plates will have to be replaced besides a new forefoot. Herport rolling chock is smashed in two places and the repairs will take a month to complete. Seeing the extent of the damage done, the captain and engineers deserve great credit for successfully bringing the vessel into port. The damage is roughly estimated at £15,200,000.

On Friday morning early was the coldest time we have had this season, and the thermometer was down to 27° at 4 o'clock. Up till past 9 a.m. there was plenty of ice on the banks of the river and the Soochow Creek. The water that was used on the roads under repair froze soon after it was sprinkled on the ground.

An accident happened on Saturday in Hongkew at the foot of the Garden Bridge. A carriage containing two ladies was about to go over the Bridge, when a jinricksha containing a gentleman was going down the slope, and as is usually the case, the jinricksha coolie ran down the incline at the top of his speed and lost all control over his vehicle. The result was that the jinricksha crashed into the carriage, the foreigner being thrown out and one of his feet badly hurt. Fortunately for the ladies in the carriage, P.C. 48 was close at hand, and he promptly caught hold of the frightened ponies and prevented their bolting. The gentleman who was hurt was sent to the Hospital.

A serious carriage accident happened on Monday on the Yangtzepoo Road. It appears that one of the reins broke and the carriage and two ponies were precipitated into a ditch full of water. The occupant of the carriage was hurt by the glass in the window, and was rescued by some foreigners.

The *Fuyew*, which arrived at Woosung on Saturday, brought 700 soldiers from Wuhu, for Foochow, for which port she left on the 20th.

The Agent of the Messageries Maritimes has received information from the Head Offices of the Company in Marseilles that the Sanitary Council of that town has reduced the observance of quarantine by vessels arriving from ports beyond Suez to three days. It is to be hoped that this reduction, which was at first from seven days to five, will be soon carried out until the restrictions are altogether done away with.

On Tuesday eight Chinese were brought up before his Worship Huang and Mr. Cheshire at the Mixed Court, by Mr. Reilly, proprietor of the Central Hotel, charged with gambling on his premises, some of the accused being in his own employ and others being boys in the service of boarders in the hotel. Mr. Reilly complained of having suffered not only considerable annoyance but actual loss from his servants' misconduct, his comrades having been unable to settle up his accounts in consequence of losses sustained in gambling. The Court, upon these representations, sentenced the whole eight men to a term of one month's imprisonment each in the chain-gang, a punishment which we do not think excessive.

The first three prizes in the Manila Lottery this month have fallen to numbers 24,299; 19,798; and 14,539.

A man named Joseph Holmes, who has been keeping the Hongkew Hotel lately, was required to attend at the Police Court on Saturday to answer a charge of using violent language, but did not appear. Seeing that this man has been several times before the Police Magistrate and was but recently bound over to keep the peace, it seems strange that the Municipal Council granted him a licence to carry on the hotel business.

An instance of gamblers robbing gamblers has come to our notice. At the "ring and pin" gambling establishments, the rings are made of brass and cost about twenty cash each. Some men who were about to start similar establishments went to the already existing ones with the ostensible purpose of trying their luck. They paid ten cash for each throw, but instead of pitching all the rings, they only threw a few, and pocketed the rest! By this means, they got as many rings as they wanted for their own establishments at half price. The Municipal Council have taken prompt action with reference to the matter, and consequently all these places in the English and American Settlements are now closed.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE SITUATION.

WHILE opinions differ, and differ widely, on the momentous question of Peace or War, there can be little doubt that we are fast approaching a very important crisis. By edicts, by circulars, by the utterances of their ambassador in Paris, the Chinese Government have repeatedly and distinctly declared that a certain step on the part of France would be considered by them a *casus belli*. So far from this having been the spontaneous and unauthorised declaration of the Marquis Tsêng, that officer has been, as is now conclusively proved, no more than the mouthpiece of the Cabinet; so that whether the threat be put in force or not, the fact seems uncontrovertible that it has been made. The step which forms the groundwork of this menace has now been commenced, and in a few days we suppose we may hear that Baoninh is in the hands of the invading army. What may be the fortunes of the French after having gone so far is a question full of gravity. On one side for a moment the possibility of their action being followed by a formal declaration of war. The *Progrès Militaire* has recently given some calculations of the number of French troops available for service in Tonquin which afford matter for serious reflection, and suggest a doubt as to the ability of the forces to hold Baoninh after it has been carried. The French paper estimates the number of fighting European men at a very moderate figure, and from this must be deducted those who are required to garrison as well as capture the different points of attack, besides a certain proportion that will be invalidated. The country is a difficult one, and the position of a small army shut up in a distant fortress and surrounded by practically innumerable hosts of desperate barbarians will probably prove precarious. This is supposing no formal declaration of war on the part of China towards France follows the capture of Baoninh. Should, however, the Chinese act up to their words for once in a way: should the menace so deliberately uttered and reiterated really be put in force, the difficulties of the French will be increased enormously. And there certainly seem to be indications that all is not so peaceful as we had reason to hope some weeks ago. The news we publish from Canton has a threatening tone about it, and may involve more than appears upon the surface. The Correspondent of the *Hongkong Daily Press* affirms that the most active preparations are being set on foot by the provincial authorities, chiefly of a defensive nature. A line of telegraphs is being erected from Canton to Kuangsi and Yunnan; the Pearl river is being strongly fortified; camps are being pitched along its banks; an official communication has been sent by the

Viceroy, Chang Shû-shêng, to the foreign Consuls, to the effect that the Government intends to put a permanent barrier in the direct channel, and to lay torpedoes; and a joint Proclamation has been issued by the Viceroy, the Governor, and the Imperial High Commissioner P'êng Yü-lin, calling upon the gentry and people energetically to repel the enemy. There are some who will consider all this as "bluff." It may be; but it is bluff which is costing China a good deal of money, and which, if it be bluff and nothing more, will commit her to a course of action from which she can scarcely withdraw without a terrible shattering of *prestige*. And here we would remark that there has been a singular consistency of late in the words and acts of China. That the Government is being impelled to show a warlike front by the urgent utterances of men like P'êng Yü-lin, Chang Chih-tung, and probably Chang P'ei-lun, is evident. These men have cried for war to the knife, edicts have come out approving and endorsing their suggestions, the representative of China at home has echoed the threats of the Cabinet at Peking, the French have, of course, disregarded the warning, and now the defences of Canton are being put upon a war footing. We have noticed no vacillation, no receding, on the part of the Chinese Government lately. Everything seems to have been consistent and continuous, and events have marched logically onward down to what seems to us now to be almost the last moment. At such a time we feel scarcely justified in theorising. We fully believe that the Chinese would hail with thankfulness any solution of the difficulty which would evade an appeal to arms. But the spirit of the people seems to have been roused to such a height that any arrangement favourable to France is likely to produce a degree of exasperation that might be dangerous to the Government itself. We have never known public feeling run so high as at present. Liu Jung-fu is regarded as a hero of patriotism, and his movements are watched with keen interest, as those of a man to whom is entrusted the honour and glory of China. It seems almost certain, however, that a few days will settle the question now. It is difficult to expect much from the negotiations of the Marquis in Paris, who can neither withdraw, nor add to, what he has already uttered. China must either recede or fight; and whichever she does she incurs risk, whether from her own people or from the French. Should the worst come, Canton would be uninhabitable by foreigners, and there seems a possibility that they may have to evacuate it before long.

THE CONSULAR DOYENSHIP.

ONE of the most important offices in the scheme of foreign Settlements in Shanghai is that of Senior Consul.

The duties of the Consular Doyen are of an arduous, and generally speaking singularly thankless, nature; he has no inconsiderable amount of trouble and hard work laid upon his shoulders, with all the concomitant responsibility and exposure to criticism; and this without any recompense save the extorted approval of a somewhat apathetic community when he has taken advantage of his position to do battle for their rights with the Chinese. The post, however, is an honourable one, and is always offered to the Consul who holds seniority in rank and time of service. A Consul-General thus takes precedence of a Consul pure and simple, and the representative of one of the smaller European Powers such as Holland or Belgium who may have been here, say, three years has priority over a representative of Great Britain, Germany, or the United States who may have arrived more recently. Of course this is the only rule possible in view of the fact that by diplomatic courtesy all nations are of equal rank; but like many other institutions unimpeachable in theory it is not without its disadvantages in practice. There would be a decided anomaly in a Consular Body, including the representatives of a nation whose annual trade with China amounts to over 80% of the entire foreign commerce of the country, being headed by the agent of a Power which has no trade with China whatever, and whose flags are never seen in Chinese waters. Yet by virtue of his seniority either in rank or time of service such a man would be fully entitled to the post of Doyen, and as a matter of fact has before now accepted the honour and discharged the functions appertaining to it, although, in the case we are thinking of, his knowledge of English was of the most imperfect and rudimentary description. Recently, however, two Consuls-General, feeling themselves personally unfitted for a post which involves public chairmanship and various other duties to which they were unaccustomed, declined the honour, which was thereupon offered to the Consul-General for Germany, who accepted it. It is a number of years now since the Italian Consul-General was Doyen of the body, and it may be generally affirmed that the post is held by the representative of either Germany or the United States. We do not intend to criticise the way in which recent incumbents have discharged the very onerous duties thus imposed upon them. Only one, perhaps, has succeeded in arousing the really enthusiastic approbation of the community, and that was Consul-General Denny. And Englishmen, who after all represent the great majority of residents out here, have always acquiesced in the Doyenship being thus confined to American and German agents. We have never once heard a regret expressed at the fact that the Senior Consul was not an Englishman, or, to vary the meaning by a shade, that the British Consul was not Doyen instead of some-

body who was. Of course, as our readers must have gathered for themselves, under the present system no British Consul can be elected to the post for the simple reason that he is not a Consul-General. As long as there is an Consul General willing to accept the Doyenship, no inferior officer can be asked to take it, and this practically excludes the man who represents the biggest interests of any. Now apart from the question of personal fitness there can be no doubt that such a system is defective. We do not for a moment suppose that a British Consul is likely to lament his exaltation, unless he is one who is unconstitutional enough to question the blessedness of that self-effacement policy which is regarded by the Foreign Office as such an excellent thing in Consuls. As long as the golden rule of grandmotherly administration is enforced, that little Consuls should be seen and not heard, and that if they are heard the probability is they will receive a snubbing for their loquacity, so long will British representatives in China acquiesce in their exclusion from a post which adds in however slight a degree to their responsibilities. But it is nevertheless true that a regard to the fitness of things appears to demand the at least occasional participation of Her Majesty's representative at Shanghai in the duties of Consular Doyen. Of course we are not in a position to say how far such an officer might be hampered by instructions from his Minister. Far be it from us to wish to pry beneath the coils of red-tape and portentous shields of sealing-wax which protect official despatches from the vulgar gaze. But the chances are certainly in favour of an energetic Consul, who should be also Consular Doyen, being supported by Her Majesty's present representative in Peking. It cannot but be just a little galling to Englishmen that, in our corporate character as members of a cosmopolitan community, we should always have to look to the Consul of another Power when measures of a public character are on the tapis. Nor, to regard the matter from another standpoint, is it fair that the burden of dealing with questions which possibly affect Englishmen more than other people, upon at least a numerical basis, should always devolve upon a German or an American. Let the British Consul take his turn at the wheel occasionally. It is not by getting some one else to do her work for her that England has become great. It is not by a policy of self-effacement that she has made her mark either in Europe or in Asia. As long as the representative of British interests in Shanghai is inferior in rank to his German, French, American, Japanese, Swedish, Italian, Austrian and Belgian colleagues, as is the case at present, so long will he labour under a disadvantage; and with him, his fellow-countrymen. It would be too much to say that a Consul lacks influence and

power simply because he is not a Consul-General. There are said to have been cases in which a man's own force of character has actually made itself felt in spite of this serious drawback, and we would not for a moment throw doubt upon the authenticity of the legend. It must at least have had a foundation in fact, though embellishments may have been added afterwards. But on the principle of giving every public man the fullest scope and chance of distinguishing himself and serving the community in which he lives, we advocate most strongly the erection of the British Consulate in Shanghai into a Consulate-General; not so much from what may be called service-considerations, of which outsiders are supposed to know nothing, as on political and public grounds. A saint in crape, says Pope, is twice a saint in lawn; and a man who has been useful in few things, as a simple Consul, is likely to develop faithfulness in the greater things which would involve upon him as Consul-General and Doyen of the Consular Body.

THE MUNICIPAL SECRETARSHIP.

WHEN, some years ago, the then Municipal Council offered the post of Secretary to the late Mr. W. F. Mayers, it was generally felt that they were aiming at high game. The negotiations unfortunately fell through, but the Council nevertheless reaped great *kudos* for the proof they had given of their far-sightedness, good judgment, and sagacity. Mr. Mayers was a fine Chinese scholar, an excellent man of business, an indefatigably hard worker, and a most skilful diplomatist. It is true that, in his capacity as Secretary of the Municipal Council, he would probably not have held direct official intercourse with the local Chinese authorities. Yet we believe we are correct in saying that one of the considerations which weighed with the Council in offering the position for his acceptance was a hope that existing arrangements might have been so far modified as to dispense in a very great measure with the services of an intermediary; and there is no doubt that, could this have been brought about, it would have facilitated business to a very considerable extent. Apart, however, from the difficulty of acquiring the Chinese consent to such a scheme, and the perhaps no smaller difficulty of obtaining the support of the Consuls, it must be obvious that the advantages proposed would depend almost entirely upon the personal character of the Secretary. As long as Mr. Mayers could have remained with us in that capacity, all no doubt would have gone well. Circumlocution, that bane of public business, would have been greatly curtailed, and we should have felt that our interests were safe in the hands of a man who had already made his name properly respected in far higher circles of Chinese mandarin-

dom than he would have been called upon to deal with here. But in looking forward to the certain uncertainties of human life, we should, by adopting the measure then proposed, have laid ourselves open to the gravest possibilities in the future. It would have been out of all human probability that we should have been blessed with a succession of Municipal Secretaries of the scholarship, the energy, the firmness, and the enlightened views which distinguished the late Mr. Mayers. And, on taking a backward glance, we may, upon the whole, congratulate ourselves that the proposed modification was not carried out, and that under the present system we stand a good chance of the Senior Consul, through whom communications with the Chinese authorities are conveyed, being a trustworthy and able man. At the same time it would be a mistake to conclude that the personal idiosyncracies of a Secretary have no bearing upon the public welfare. It is not only in writing despatches to an impertinent and obstructive Tao-t'ai that the high qualities of such an officer are called into play. It might happen that the Secretary was an obstructive man himself, in which case the despatches would perhaps never get written at all; nor is it a curious fact that obstructiveness in a foreigner generally shows itself in directions which lead to the advantage of the Chinese rather than to that of foreign residents, and a man who from long residence in China falls into this conservative habit of mind is apt to become more Chinese even than the Chinese themselves. It is a misfortune according to our position here that in a multiplicity of instances we are forced to assume an attitude more or less hostile to the native authorities; not an aggressive attitude, but one of firm resistance to the difficulties and obstructions placed in our way by them whenever an opportunity of doing so occurs. When, then, the mouthpiece of the Council is a man inclined by habit and disposition to favour an obstructive policy, it follows that the disadvantage at which we stand is proportionately increased. And not only so: the same infirmity of mind is likely to show itself in matters pertaining to interests purely foreign, on which the native mandarins need not be consulted at all. When proposals for the reform or removal of long-standing abuses are systematically opposed on *prima facie* grounds; when vested interests are upheld to the grave prejudice, perhaps, of the entire community; when Chinese objections to improvement in locomotion or sanitary matters are welcomed and endorsed; when schemes of public benefit are received coldly, if not discountenanced,—then it becomes the duty of Councillors to consider the position in which they themselves stand towards the ratepayers, and the danger of permitting the growth of an influence at variance with the general weal. In the first case that we are supposing, it would be wise for Councillors to

place themselves with confidence in the hands of their Secretary to an extent scarcely warranted, perhaps, by the legal and formal responsibilities devolving upon them as independent representatives of the community; in the second case their care should be to confine the functions of the Secretary to work of the most purely clerical nature. This, however, may occasionally prove a task of some difficulty. The experience of past years has shown that grave disservice to the community may result from the personal participation of officers, occupying such a position, in transactions in real estate. Illustrations are not wanting of the fact that the exercise of personal influence, coloured pretty strongly by personal prejudices and predilections, is as difficult to avoid as it is injurious in its effects. The duties of a Municipal Secretary are such as require experience of business, knowledge of the Settlement, and individual energy of character. When these are present, it is unnecessary to permit the play of private idiosyncracies unless these are exercised in cordial and unmistakable harmony with the requirements of the moment and the best interests of the Municipality. Should, however, any such characteristics be allowed to obstruct the advance of Shanghai in matters which are essential to its public and social well-being, in whatever department of life, it is the duty of those in power to nip the mischief in the bud with a strong hand, even at the risk of incurring animosity on the part of private individuals; and it consequently behoves ratepayers to abstain from strengthening the hands of an inert and obstructive Secretary by electing, as members of the executive, men who are known to be protectors of vested interests, enemies of progress, and advocates of that do-nothing and illiberal policy which gives us so much trouble in our dealings with the Chinese.

THE JURY SYSTEM.

THERE is probably no institution of which the average Englishman is prouder, or to which he clings more jealously, than that of Trial by Jury. It is bound up in his mind, as in that of Mr. Bounderby, with Magna Charta, representative government, the Union Jack, roast beef, Church and State, an Englishman's house is his castle, Habeas Corpus, and God save the Queen; he sees in it a cherished and invaluable right, and, to use his favourite phrase, the palladium of all his liberties. There are few persons more thoroughly superstitious than your thorough-going John Bull, and there are few superstitions more deeply rooted than this instinctive belief of his in the virtues of trial by jury. Its very antiquity surrounds it with a sort of halo of divinity. An institution that dates back to the time of King Alfred must be the embodiment of wisdom. Any attempt to throw doubt

upon its perfection is next door only to high treason, and equal to the worst and most excessive demonstrations of modern radicalism. It is only a very few of the more thoughtful who allow themselves in the privacy of their own chambers to question the absolute excellence of the system. Yet there are those who do, and although they may be numerically insignificant it cannot be denied that they are able to make a considerable show in argument. The fact is that trial by jury, like many other human institutions, is perfect enough in theory though very much wanting in practice. We do not hesitate to assert that in numberless cases it has led to the gravest miscarriage of justice, and has frequently failed to accomplish the ends held in view by those who still support it. Take any jury which has to decide upon a question of equity, here or elsewhere. It consists, to begin with, of the most grotesquely incongruous elements. There is perhaps a butcher, a wharfinger, a merchant, a professor of languages or science, a linen-draper's assistant, a tavern-keeper, and a few more to make up the required number, drawn haphazard from the public ranks, pitchforked into the jury-box, and kept in close custody until they have one and all arrived at the same conclusion upon a point of more or less difficulty and importance. No one man, perhaps, has anything in common with any of his fellow-jurors, excepting the facts that they are all equally ignorant of law, all very anxious to get the case over as quickly as possible, and all of them born in England. Twelve honest Englishmen are, by a pleasant fiction, supposed to represent the exact quality and quantity of human intellect requisite for redressing all human wrongs, and distinguishing between the nicest and most delicate shades of equity and legal due. Each man swears that he will "well and truly try" the questions on which he is about to hear evidence, and many, no doubt, do their duty as far as they are able; but we utterly disbelieve that any man can give the close and cheerful and conscientious attention to the case which its importance demands, while he is conscious that his prolonged absence from his shop or office is causing serious inconvenience at home. Apart from this, juries may often be described, with perfect justice, as patterns of collective stupidity. The dunderheadedness of juries has almost passed into a proverb. Verdicts have been returned, as was recently the case in Hongkong, in direct defiance of evidence, common-sense, and the summing-up of the Judge, and have been greeted with murmurs, loud and deep, of mingled derision and indignation. It has often happened that these outrages on justice have resulted from the pig-headed obstinacy of one man. "I say no," said a juror of this class, on a recent occasion, when the whole of the jury

had come to a common understanding, excepting himself. "I say, no," he repeated with dogged equanimity. "I aint a-goin' to say *why* I say no, neither; I just say *no*, and stick to it; and you may keep me here for six hours or for six years, if you like—'twon't be no manner of good." No more it was; and one is puzzled which to wonder at the more, the stubbornness of the one man, or the weakness and foolishness of the others. It sometimes happens, however, that the opposing juror condescends to give a reason for his opposition. Not very long ago, one of these geniuses was on the jury of a trial for murder. There was no doubt of the accused's guilt; indeed he had virtually thrown himself upon the mercy of the Court. But our independent jurymen refused to agree with the verdict arrived at by all his fellows. "Why?" he was naturally asked. "You don't doubt that the man did it?"—Oh, no, he had no doubt of that. "Why won't you bring him in guilty, then?" enquired the foreman. "Why?" responded the juror; "why, the poor devil never did me any harm; what should I want to hang him for?" We have had many lawyers' and barristers' 'Reminiscences' of late; we wish somebody would publish some reminiscences of the jury-room. If the consultations of the jurors, and the reasons which led each man to bring in certain verdicts, could only be reported clearly and at full length, we think that people would open their eyes a little wider than usual. So far from the jury-system being a palladium of our liberties, we believe it as often as not stands in the way of justice. It is already doomed in America, and it is only a timid conservatism that keeps it alive in England. In any case, the ignorance and stupidity of individual jurors ought to be provided against by a system which should train men to serve on a jury, just as barristers are trained to address them. It stands to reason that until jurors have a legal education we shall never be safe from absurd, illogical, or forced verdicts; and if it be replied to this that such an education would invalidate the very objects for which the system itself exists, then in the name of common-sense let us have our causes, both criminal and civil, tried by a bench of Three Judges, instead of, as at present, by one Judge, and twelve unwilling and generally incompetent jurors upon whose peculiarity of temper or disposition the fortunes of justice too often depend.

THE FRENCH-MAIL PAPERS.

At the date of this mail's papers things were looking very dark for France, and the Ministers seeming to be having an anxious time of it in the Chamber. "Paris," says the *Spectator*, "is greatly agitated by a fear that things are going wrong in Tonquin, and M. Clémenceau on Thursday . . . maintained that a memorandum had been received from China making an attack on Bacninh a *casus belli*, that nevertheless an attack had been ordered, and that con-

sequently the Ministry were decreeing war, contrary to the Constitution." Nor, as the same paper observes, was the news from Tonquin at all reassuring at that date, and it is difficult to resist the conclusion that the position of the Ministry was one of some embarrassment. Admiral Courbet had telegraphed a refusal to risk defeat by advancing without reinforcements, and it appears that this unwelcome message must have arrived at a moment when France was expecting to hear every day that Bacinh had been taken. Even M. Ferry acknowledged that the situation was grave, and used expressions which implied that if China would but give him a nominal victory—"which Tseng," remarks the *Spectator*, "snubbed and affronted by all Frenchmen, is in no temper to do"—he would gladly leave Tonquin without beat of drum. The article quoted concludes with the following words:—

The French Ministry are not to blame for their difficulties, which lie deep in the very structure of their State, but they are to blame for attempting three wars at once, and still more to blame for refusing to believe, in spite of evidence, that a Monarchy which governs three hundred millions in tranquillity must possess some fighting force. China is weak, as Chinese Gordon told her, because her capital was selected with an eye to Tartary, and not to the sea; but if France cannot get to Peking, let her not fight China. Anywhere else, the Empress-Mother can waste men like shells, and not know that they are wasted.

The *Saturday* harps upon the same string—"French Difficulties." The situation, it says, is unchanged—both Powers stand facing each other, "willing to wound and yet afraid to strike." There is no doubt that if the French go too far, there will be war in the East; but nobody seems quite to know what too far exactly means:—

By general consent it seems to be settled that when the upshot of the attack on Bacinh is known the question of peace or war will be decided. When the attack will take place, however, or what forces will be engaged in it, or what it will really lead to, nobody knows. It is becoming meanwhile daily more certain that, however much France may appreciate the glories and profits of war, she is very unwilling to face the cost and the danger. The Budget Committee appointed to report on the Tonquin credit has arrived at the conclusion that some amount of fighting there must be to save the dignity of France, but that it must be as little as possible. When the attack on Bacinh was believed to be imminent, the Parisians were seized with a nervous fit, and began suddenly to speculate on the possible consequences. In point of fact, the whole country, or at least the noisy minority which speaks in its name, has been so confident that China would not fight, that suddenly being brought face to face with the prospect of a Chinese war has had the effect of douche of cold water. Even the Ministry is beginning to acknowledge after a fashion that it has been a little too cocksure.

Reverting to other subjects, we find several readable articles in the *Spectator*, among which we may mention that on 'Christianity and Socialism,' the performance of 'The Birds' at Cambridge, and a notice of the late Sir William Siemens. A review of a highly successful historical novel called 'Abigail Rowe,' by the Hon. Lewis Wingfield, is also well worth reading. 'Abigail Rowe' seems to be as much talked of as 'John Inglesant' was when it first appeared. The *Saturday* is unusually good this week. There is an excellent review of Mr. Irving's campaign in New York, and a remarkable *résumé* of an article in the *Quarterly* on St. Theresa. From another article we see that an effort is to be made towards the realisation of Walter Besant's ideal of a People's Palace at the East-end of London. The recent ceremony at the Siamese Legation in London, in which Prince Prisdang was elevated from the rank of Mom Chow to that of Phra Wongs Th'oe Phra Ong Chow, forms the subject of another very instructive and entertaining essay. But the *Pall Mall* has perhaps the most attractive re-

portory this week. There is actually an article telling us 'How to Fly,' with two illustrations of a flying-machine invented by a Mr. Linfield, who has recently been interviewed by a representative of the paper. Mr. Linfield, it is true, has not yet succeeded in flying; but that he declares to be a mere detail, for he has shown how it is to be done. The only danger is that the machine must be kept at full speed, for the moment it stops it drops. The second article on 'Centres of Spiritual Activity' appears this week. It is written by Mr. Frederick Harrison, and deals with the Positivist Society at Newton Hall. The following paragraph is suggestive:—

But Sunday discourses, scientific classes, and political debates, all leave much to be done. Spiritual activity, undoubtedly, implies the consecration of life by public sanction, the commemoration of great festivals and great epochs in our existence, whether public or private, the outpouring of the heart in thankfulness, meditation and reverence. Here, too, we seek to form the germs of a spiritual activity at once real, human, and mundane. From time to time the centenary of a great man's death, the presentation to the community of a child, the commemoration of the dead, the opening of the New Year, a musical festival, or the like, forms the occasion of a perfectly human worship. And by worship we mean the outward tribute of honour to that which is felt to be worthy of honour. Nor are the simpler and more trivial forms of social communion wanting. A friendly meal in common, an evening of talk and tea and general intercourse, a musical gathering with instrument and voice, and a part-song by our choral union. At the close of the year the great poem of "The Dead," by George Eliot, will be set as a cantata, with a full body of instruments and voices.

Among the reviews in this paper we have one of Mr. Edwin Arnold's new book, 'Indian Idylls.' The others are comparatively unimportant, though a notice of Mrs. Lynn Linton's republication of her 'Girl of the Period' papers in the *Saturday* is amusing enough in its way. The *Athenæum* has an excellent review of Mr. Edmund Gosse's 'Seventeenth Century Studies,'—an article seven columns long. The book appears to be of the most valuable and delightful nature, and we hope soon to see it in our local libraries. It will be unusually interesting, we should think, to read this work side by side with M. Taine's picturesque volume dealing with the same period. Mr. Theodore Watts contributes the following sonnet, headed 'The Gipsy Child's Christmas':—

Dear Lavie Lee went dancing from "The Dells,"

Charmed by the Christmas chimes, and soon she sat

Where 'neath the snow around the churchyard gate

The ploughmen slept in bramble-banded cells.
The gorgies passed half fearing gipsy spells,
While Lavie, gazing, seemed to meditate;
She laughed for joy, then wept disconsolate:
"The poor dead gorgies cannot hear the bells."

Within the church the clouds of Christian breath

Arose to One in lazy praise and prayer.

But where stood He? Beside the gipsy there,
Remembering childish tears in Nazareth,

Building of love the golden Christmas-stair
O'er sorrow and sin and hungry deeps of Death.

We conclude a necessarily imperfect summary with a few items from the Literary Gossip.—In Miss Thackeray's article on Mr. Tennyson in *Harper's Magazine* for December there is this reference in connexion with his appointment as Post Laureate on the death of Wordsworth in 1850:—"There is a story that at the time Sir Robert Peel was consulted he had never read any Tennyson, but he read 'Ulysses,' and warmed up, and acknowledged the right of this new-come poet to be England's Laureate." This is a mistake. The Prime Minister at the time of Mr. Tennyson's appointment was Lord John Russell. The story told by Miss Thackeray is substan-

tially correct, but it relates to an earlier period, when, on the recommendation of Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Tennyson received a Civil List pension. A writer in the *Leeds Mercury*, commenting upon these facts, observes that Peel was dead before Tennyson received the dignity of Poet Laureate. This also is an error. Mr. Tennyson was appointed Poet Laureate at the close of April, 1850, and Sir Robert Peel's fatal accident did not occur until the end of the following June.—The opening chapters of new novel by Miss Braddon will appear in the *Whitehall Review* of January 17th, and will be continued in that paper during 1884. The *Whitehall Review* passed about a year ago into the hands of the present proprietors, Mr. J. Watson Lyall and Mr. J. Keith Angus, and since that time a great improvement has taken place in the literary part of the journal, while the "society" element has been eliminated. Mr. Watson Lyall has handed over the editorship, in consequence of multiplicity of other engagements, to Mr. R. Dennis, a journalist of well-known ability.—The publication of the *Link*, the new magazine, the first number of which was announced by us last week as coming out in December, is postponed till January next.—*Alma Mater: the Aberdeen University Magazine*, is the title of a periodical just established by the students of the Northern university.

Outports.

(FROM A CHINESE CORRESPONDENT.)

From the beginning of the winter season, where there has been no rain, the different regiments stationed in this city have been continually drilling on the several parade grounds. I find that, with no exception, the troops are all drilled after the foreign method, and the sound of continuous firing of the breach-loaders is kept up from daylight until noon. Target practice seems to be the chief thing. On stated days however archery on horseback and on foot is also practised by the soldiers. The 16th of this month has been settled upon when drilling shall cease for the New Year holidays, at the end of which however there will again be continuous exercises. The regiments garrisoning this city consist principally of men from the Huai (淮) districts of this province. They are well drilled, and a fine body of men, and it is said that with the commencement of spring they will be despatched to Canton. I do not know whether this is true or not; however, when it was rumoured in the camps that they were going to Canton, the men all shouted approbation, and were anxious to go as soon as possible, so that they might quickly meet the French in battle.

In the case of the Yu family, husband and wife, I hear that orders have arrived in this city that the husband Yu Wan-jung is to suffer the *ling-chih*—i.e. slicing to pieces—process on the 16th instant on the execution ground. Yu's wife's sentence has not yet been approved of by the higher authorities, hence her execution has been delayed. Seven others, convicted of robbery, will also suffer death by decapitation on the same day.

14th January.

HANKOW.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

By this time, you of course understand we have again passed through one of those festive seasons so dear to Hankow. This year we have quite exceeded ourselves in the matter of enjoyments, and the outside world will be glad to know we are alive

to an existence outside of tea ships and race course fenceings.

Mr. Weatherstone (Drysdale, Ringer & Co.'s hulk-keeper) gave a children's fancy dress ball at Christmas time; and all the foreign children attended. This was followed by a ball at Mr. Woodward's; then came a "bal masqué" at Mr. Ramsay's which was attended by pretty well the whole community, besides visitors. Unfortunately Christmas and New Year passed without a snow-storm, so we were unable to indulge in a battle of snow-balls. On Christmas day we had a steeplechase, and nearly the whole community turned out to see the finish. This was followed by another steeplechase on New Year's day, to which a number of the residents turned out. Indeed, one of the good signs of our times is the interest taken in open air sports,—an interest, too, not so much on account of the pastimes, as through them to preserve the *mens sana in corpore sano*. Our age is so quick, and the wear and tear of mind and body is so great, that it is surely wise to seek an antidote in healthy exercise. With this very laudable object in view many men look about for a suitable game, and a wide choice lies before them. There is the quiet game of bowls, the more rapid cricket, the fast and furious foot-ball and the new and nimble lawn-tennis; but at the head of the list as a health-giver and right pleasant game for young and old, stands the royal and ancient Scottish game of golf. If space would permit, a long list of illustrious names might be given to show that golf is no mean game. Nearly all the Stuart Kings were golfers. Charles I. was playing golf on Leith Links when a courier came to tell him of the rising of Sir Phelim O'Neil in Ireland. When the Duke of York was in Edinburgh in 1679 he frequently played on the Leith Links, and chose for his partner John Paterson, shoemaker, a great exponent of the game. Paterson had an eye to the main chance, and it is said that with his winnings he built his house in Canongate of Edinburgh, over the door of which he caused the following inscription to be put:—

Cum victor ludo Scotia qui proprius esset,
Ser tres victores post redemitur avos,
Patersonus, humo tunc educat in altum,
Hanc quævis victores tot tulit una damnus.
"I hate no person."

So much for the game, then; and it is not so well-known as might be expected that a flourishing club exists in Hankow, and I am happy to say the chief import of this letter is to inform the outside world of the latest development of the latent energies of the members of this Club in a social way. The festivities referred to in the beginning of my letter were augmented by tiffin at the Russian Consulate yesterday and an innumerable host of festivities to-day (Russian New Year's day). In the midst of all these, however, and in connection with the Hankow Golf Club, comes an incident worthy of a conspicuous position in your columns, and the extensiveness of your circulation enhances the value of the notice; not only among the friends of Hankow golfers but of golfers generally. The incident in question was a complimentary tiffin by the members of the Hankow Golf Club to Alex. Leith Esq., manager of this branch of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, who for some time past has fulfilled the arduous duties of Honorary Secretary to above Club, and now goes home for twelve months on a well earned holiday; so the golfers thought no more fitting opportunity would be afforded them of expressing their sense of gratitude and respect for a worthy officer and member than by giving a complimentary tiffin to him on this the day of his departure from our midst. Invitations were issued by Mr. Price for tiffin at Redcar Lodge at 1 p.m. to-day. Nearly all the members were present, Mr. Price was in the chair, and Mr. Ramsay acted as

croupier. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given, Commander Hicks of H.M.S. *Albatross* replying for the Navy.

Mr. Ramsay then rose and said—That no matter how much he might feel complimented on the honourable position he occupied on the occasion, he deeply regretted that part of the duty which fell to his lot was to propose "bon voyage" to the guest of the day. He could safely say that as the oldest foreign resident in Hankow the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank had never been so ably represented as in the person of Mr. Leith, and it would have been well-nigh impossible for the Hankow Golf Club to have attained its present eminence and prominence without the valuable co-operation of Mr. Leith in his capacity as Hon. Sec. He was sure he spoke the mind of the company when he expressed regret at Mr. Leith's departure. He, however, hoped Mr. Leith would thoroughly enjoy his holiday, and he was further pleased to think it was delegated to him to present Mr. Leith with a beautiful gold bracelet for Mrs. Leith from members of the Golf Club, and he wished Mrs. Leith would be long spared to wear, and Mr. Leith long spared to admire, this small memento of respect and esteem from the members of the Hankow Golf Club. (Loud and continued cheers). Mr. Leith responded in suitable terms, which means more than it seems on this occasion, and it is no discredit to your columns to announce that Mr. Leith did not attempt to keep back a tear of regret at leaving this community, where he has so thoroughly endeared himself.

Mr. Price then proposed "Mr. Ferrier;" and going over the career of the Club from its birth said they were all indebted to Mr. Ferrier for the many able hints he gave them in regard to every detail of the game. Of course everybody knew Mr. Ferrier was the best player, and although he had not so far been successful in any of the handicaps, that was due to the "weight which he carried"; and while bearing testimony to the efficient manner in which Mr. Leith had acted as Hon. Sec. he hoped Mr. Ferrier would be long spared to guide and instruct them in the mysteries of the Royal and Ancient game.

Mr. Ferrier, in replying, thanked Mr. Price and members for the honour they had done him, and supplemented Mr. Price's remarks anent the same by several humorous reminiscences. He also complimented Mr. Leith on his energy as Hon. Sec. and expressed unqualified regret at his departure.

Dr. Begg's health was next proposed. The doctor in replying said that golfing had for him a peculiar fascination, not because he was a Scotchman particularly and came from "Auld Reekie," so much as on account of the possibilities of the game, some of which would be welcome professionally (not pecuniarily, of course). So far however his services had not been required, and he hoped they never would be, on the golfing-field. He also regretted Mr. Leith's departure.

Mr. McGregor then proposed Mr. Price's health, which was drunk with the utmost enthusiasm. Mr. Price, in replying, said it was impossible for him to feel at home, even in his own house, considering the loss they were about to sustain in the person of Mr. Leith. He could safely say that as a Hankow resident of long standing no one felt the loss of any resident as he did that of Mr. Leith. Mr. Leith's uniform urbanity and good temper were marked improvements on his predecessors in office, and his affability had so endeared him to the community that he, Mr. Price, might say his (Mr. Leith's) loss would be long felt. He wished Mr. Leith a pleasant holiday, and begged that the folks from next Branch to which Mr. Leith might be appointed, would refer to him for character, &c.

After a pleasant three hours had been thus spent, a suggestion was made as to a

concluding match in which Mr. Leith might take part, and the company adjourned to compete for the "Redcar Cup." After two rounds and the cards handed in, and the scores compared with the various averages allowed, the low score was found to be that of Mr. Ferrier, at 76 being 8 below, followed by Mr. Price at 83, being 7 below. Several very fair scores were made by the other players; throughout the weather was charming, and the "putting greens" were very keen. After the handicap, several other matches were played. Dr. Begg and Mr. Robertson also played a single result a half. Played off again result another half.

Mr. McGregor and Mr. Leith played a single result 1 stroke in Mr. McGregor's favour.

CRISPUS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

A record of our doings at this far-off River Port since the winter season set in may prove of interest to friends and acquaintances in the Model Settlement. The arrival of H.M.S. *Albatross*, besides giving us a comfortable sense of greater security in these troublous times, has added greatly to the general liveliness, and proved a most welcome addition to our community. We have been blessed with beautiful weather, which has favoured out-door amusements; and Cricket Matches, an Athletic Meeting, the New Year's Day Scratch Races, Golfing and Lawn Tennis have been thoroughly enjoyed. The gaiety was inaugurated by an afternoon dance, followed shortly after by an evening dance, both being given at Tai-ping. Then a series of pleasant dinner parties, often succeeded by an impromptu dance, followed in quick succession, and still go on. The children were not forgotten; indeed what with three Christmas trees, fancy-dress quadrilles, theatricals, and showers of presents, the little ones have had a wonderfully good time of it. A dance given by the Junior Customs' mess was the next pleasurable excitement, and most enjoyable it was. The gaiety culminated in a Bal Masqué—the event of the season, and which will be long remembered, given at Tai-ping on the 8th inst., and which is unanimously pronounced to be the most perfect success and one of the pleasantest dances ever participated in by all who had the privilege and honour of an invitation, the guests numbering nearly fifty. A convenient set of rooms *en suite*, a perfectly waxed floor in the two dancing rooms, the walls of which were tastefully hung with bunting by those past-masters in the art of decoration, Messrs. Dolly and Gardner of H.M.S. *Albatross*, a profusion of lovely ferns, flowers, and floral decorations, a charming supper and the warmest of welcomes from our host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay, all contributed to the thorough enjoyment of the guests, who are also indebted to them for the two first dances alluded to above. The well lighted and decorated rooms and the bright and varied costumes of the dancers made a pretty scene, and our kind host and hostess are to be warmly congratulated on the thorough success of their efforts to give pleasure to their friends. The following were the dresses worn:—

Mrs. Ramsay Nourmahal.
Miss Ramsay A page.
Mr. Ramsay Irish card-driver.
Mrs. Alabaster.....Madame de Pompadour.
" Gardner.....Italian peasant.
" Huart.....Mascotte.
" Bredon An Equimaux.
" Leith Queen of the Nile.
" Roebur Queen of Hearts.
" Woodward Mary, Queen of Scots.
" Weatherstone.Marguerite.
Miss Gardner Highland Lassie.
" Easton Music.
" Schlichling Spanish Lady.
Mr. Alabaster Domino and Uniform.
" Gardner A parcel and Old Guard.
" Dmitrevsky Astrologer.

Mr. Huart.....Uniform.
 „ Reddie Domino.
 Capt. Hicks, R.N.....Uniform.
 Lieut. Routh, „ ... Do.
 „ Rolfe „ ... Do.
 Dr. Pollard Evening dress.
 Mr. Clarke Uniform.
 „ Dupen A.B. Sailor.
 „ Breton G'tleman, XVIII Century.
 „ Roether French clown.
 „ Leith Mr. Pickwick.
 „ Joly Matador.
 Dr. Begg Squire, XVIII Century.
 „ Macgowan.....Evening dress.
 Mr. Jerlein Do.
 „ Inglis Japanese Lady.
 „ Robertson Highlander.
 „ Marsh Sambo.
 „ Molehanoff Othello.
 „ Fisher Boatswain, R.N.
 „ Nicholson Shanghai Lighthouse.
 „ Woodward Beefeater and Marine.
 „ Molotkoff Russian Nobleman, Court dress.
 „ Cumming A.B. Sailor.
 „ Little Millman.
 „ Weatherstone.....Mephistopheles.
 „ Price Marine Artillery.
 „ Dent Brigand.
 „ Chalmers Russian Costume.
 „ Von Kharberg.....Hungarian Hussar.
 „ Titoushkin Matador.
 „ Grauberg.....Evening dress.
 16th Jan.

THE FRENCH IN TONQUIN.

Hanoi, 28th December.

On the 19th inst., two days after the occupation of the citadel of Sontai by the French troops, Admiral Courbet and his staff returned to Hanoi on the *Pluvier*, accompanied by one of the smaller gunboats and the transport *Ruri-maru*, with about 750 men of the marine infantry. By that time order had been restored in the captured citadel, but it was considered advisable to scour the surrounding country in search of any remaining Black Flags, and Colonel Bichôt, of the marine infantry, who had been left in command, started out on a reconnaissance with a force of fifteen hundred men from Sontai on the morning of the 20th inst. The new citadel, some three miles from Sontai, to which it was believed some of the routed garrison had made their escape, was found to be in an unfinished condition and entirely deserted. Hung-wah, or Hung-hoa, a small citadel about ten miles up the Songkoi, above Sontai, was also found to be unoccupied, but since then it is believed that a few Black Flags have collected there, and orders have been given to the Annamite officials of the town and neighbourhood to destroy the citadel within fifteen days, otherwise it will be bombarded by the gunboats. The remainder of the country for ten or fifteen miles around Sontai is quite clear of the enemy, and the Annamite population of the neighbourhood are not only coming in to offer their allegiance to the victors, but continue to bring in, as prisoners, any Chinese stragglers upon whom they can lay hands.

The 19th inst. was celebrated in Hanoi as a day of general rejoicing, and it certainly contrasted most favourably with the fatal 19th May, when Hanoi lay panic-stricken, with the dreaded Black Flags at the gates of the Concession. Admiral Courbet was received with cheers from both the civilians and the military who had gathered at the landing place to see him disembark, for there is no doubt that the comparatively easy success of the expedition under his command was as unexpected as it was satisfactory. It was expected that the victory would have been far more dearly bought than proved to be the case, and from statements made by some of the Annamite population, it would appear that there was a good share of luck in the affair. These reports are to the effect that great dissension existed between the Black Flags and their Annamite allies at Sontai, and that several

mandarins and officers of the latter had been executed by the order of Liu Jung-fu for alleged lukewarmness in the anti-foreign cause. It is only by accepting this theory that it is possible to account for the evacuation of the citadel of Sontai by its garrison on the night of the 16th. Most of the dead found inside were Annamites, while the defenders of the outposts, notably that of Phuc-tso, the taking of which cost the French so dear, were almost entirely Black Flags. Had the defence of the citadel, which is a fortification of great strength, been maintained with the determination and pluck evinced at Phuc-tso, it is possible that the French forces might be still engaged before Sontai, and it is certain that to take it by assault would have cost more lives than the total of the actual loss, which is now stated at three hundred and fifty killed and wounded, out of which thirty were officers. Any official list of the casualties I have been unable to obtain.

I have still been debarred from visiting Sontai, although all operations there are concluded. I might have gone up in a native sampan, at considerable risk, but as the entrance to the citadel is strictly guarded and no one admitted without a written permit from headquarters, which has been refused to all correspondents, I cannot now give you a description of the place. At present, from all accounts, the town and citadel are in a horrible condition owing to the unburied or half-buried bodies of the dead, which render the air all around pestilential. The Annamites employed in this work throw the corpses into the river or the nearest pool of water, while those remains that are interred at all are only put in a shallow hole and a little earth thrown over the top. The actual number of Chinese and Annamites killed during the four days' operations is estimated at rather more than two thousand, and as, according to the latest information received on the subject, the entire force at Sontai amounted to twelve thousand men, it is clear that a large proportion of the Black Flags have escaped and may be expected to give further trouble to the French forces. Some of the refugees are believed to have gone higher up the river, towards Lao-kai, while many of them have probably found their way to Bac-ninh. One of the immediate effects of the fall of Sontai was the withdrawal of the Chinese force which attempted to cross the Songkai at the blackhouse opposite, and whose night attacks had spoiled our sleep during the progress of the operation at Sontai.

After the three days' reconnaissance made by Colonel Bichôt, the greater part of the troops and the gunboats returned to Hanoi, leaving about one thousand men to hold Sontai.

The arrangements for the wounded during the operations were decidedly more efficiently planned and carried out than on any former occasion during the campaign. The transport *Ruri-maru* was fitted up as hospital ship and formed the headquarters of the medical department, while a number of coolies had been enrolled into an ambulance corps, under the direction of the doctors, to carry the wounded from the field to the steamer.

Amongst the spoils found in Sontai was a considerable quantity of treasure, in the form of silver bars, amounting in value to about thirty thousand dollars. A large number of cartridges for Remington and Snider rifles were taken, as well as some hundreds of rifles. Several of the guns found bore the stamp of the Foochow Arsenal. One huge piece of artillery, more than twelve feet in length, which had been mounted in one of the forts, had also been turned out of the same factory, though how it was transported to Sontai is a mystery. A number of important documents, relating to correspondence between Hué and Sontai and the Chinese Government officials, were found in the house formerly inhabited by

Liu Jung-fu, and amongst other papers bills of lading from Tientsin to Hanoi for treasure and ammunition. Many cases of cartridges appeared from these documents to have been imported and passed through the Hanoi customs as condensed milk. Several of the Chinese and Annamite residents in Hanoi are implicated in these transactions, and though not at present arrested will probably shortly be seized. It was at first reported that Liu Jung-fu was wounded during the engagement, but the report appears to be without foundation. His next in command, a chief who at one time belonged to the Yellow Flags, was, however, killed. Liu himself, mounted on a white pony, was at one time, during the fighting on the 15th, face to face with Admiral Courbet, with only a ditch or moat between them. He is supposed to have retreated with the best of his men to Lao-kai, or some other post of the Black Flags up the Red River.

On the 20th inst. M. Tricon paid a flying visit to Hanoi and Sontai, leaving again on the 23rd to catch the French mail steamer in Haiphong for Europe. M. Harmand, who had been waiting at Hanoi lately only to see the issue of the Sontai operations, also left Hanoi on the 23rd. He went down to Haiphong on the *Carabine*, a small gunboat, and was saluted with a salvo of 18 guns from the *Pluvier*, who manned her yards on the occasion. Little interest was displayed in regard to him either by the military or civil population, whose only feelings seem to be a mild satisfaction at his departure and a hope that they have seen the last of him in Tonquin. In his former capacity of ~~commandant~~ ^{consul} at Bangkok, M. Harmand was much respected and liked, but promotion to the more responsible post of actual governor of Tonquin appears to have turned his head.

Only a day or two after the return of the greater part of the victorious French army from Sontai the elation and rejoicings of the residents of Hanoi received a sudden check and were turned to consternation and lamentation by a serious disaster, which occurred in the newly-erected European part of the town, just outside the Concession. At about 7 o'clock on the morning of the 27th instant, an explosion, followed by an outburst of flames, occurred at the artillery workshop, which is situated near the river-side, close to the entrance to the Concession. After the first outbreak of the fire, explosion followed explosion with startling rapidity and it was impossible to make any attempt to extinguish the flames which had, in a few minutes, enveloped the whole building, constructed entirely of bamboos and timber. The cause of the conflagration was very soon known, and added to the alarm and panic already experienced by all the residents in the neighbourhood. On the preceding day a large quantity of ammunition, including several hundred cases of shells, rifle cartridges, and powder, had been disembarked from the lighter *Cua-can*, just returned from Sontai, and had been temporarily stored alongside the artillery workshops and forge. A spark thrown from the latter during the shoeing of a horse set fire to some bamboo shavings or chips, which ignited one of the boxes of ammunition. As the latter exploded one after another they carried destruction all around, the shells bursting in the air and scattering their fragments in all directions for a distance of several hundred yards. A space of about six acres in extent, on which had been erected the stores and houses of many of the most enterprising civilians of Hanoi, as well as the barracks and stables of the artillery, was in the course of about two hours reduced to a waste of ashes. Although strong fatigue parties of troops were at once on the ground to do all possible to arrest the spread of the fire, it was for some time quite impossible to approach near the source and centre of the conflagration, as a perfect bombardment

was being effected by the cases of shells, as they were, one after another, ignited by the burning débris which fell upon them. The bamboo buildings on the outskirts of the area encompassed by the flames were pulled down and destroyed, and the spread of the fire thus limited. The occupants of the barracks, in close proximity to the gunshed and workshop, as well as the civilians in the neighbouring houses, had no time to spare to make any attempt to save their effects. It was a race for life, and unfortunately that was not in all cases successful. It was not until more than an hour after the first explosion that it was possible to approach the seat of the fire, when nearly all the explosives had burst and had done their work, and by that time the scene presented a complete waste of still burning ashes, with a few smouldering bamboo posts standing to mark what had previously been the chief business portion of Hanoi. The native city proper, which is separated from this part of the town by an embankment and massive brick gateway, fortunately escaped from the fire, as did also the Concession, but neither were exempt from the effects of the bursting shells, pieces of which were to be found imbedded in the ground in all directions. The plug of a fuse shell fell outside the door of my room, just within the gates of the city, at the first explosion, and when the correspondent of the *Daily News* and myself went out to see what we could of the exciting scene, a shell exploded some twenty yards from the city gateway and lodged a piece of burning iron, a pound in weight, in the ground a foot in front of my companion, while another fraction of the same projectile struck an unfortunate Annamite coolie a few yards off, on the side of the head, and killed him on the spot. The number of casualties actually reported up to the present may be considered miraculously small when the extent and duration of the bombardment, as it actually was, is taken into consideration. Three men and one Annamite woman were killed and five or six men seriously wounded. One of the men killed, a French soldier, was wounded by a shell while escaping from the barracks, and was burnt in the building before he could be rescued. A powder magazine, in the immediate neighbourhood of the conflagration, was only saved by great exertion on the part of the soldiers; had it been ignited, probably not a house would have been left standing in the Concession or the neighbourhood, and hundreds of lives must have been lost. The actual loss of property is, however, quite sufficiently serious as it is; all the plant and tools of the artillery and engineers contained in the workshop, the carriages and equipments of a mountain battery and several heavier pieces of artillery, and more than one hundred cases of shells and cartridges, were utterly destroyed. The artillery barracks and stables, and about a dozen private houses, stores and restaurants, belonging to several of the chief tradesmen of Hanoi, with all their stock and effects, have been demolished, and their unfortunate owners left with nothing in the world but the clothes they escaped in. Two of these unfortunates had only recently been started in business at Hanoi for the second time, after having suffered the loss of their houses and goods by the burning or blowing up of their property by the French authorities after the 19th May last. Another loser had paid over the money for his house, which he had never yet occupied, only half an hour before the catastrophe occurred. Many of the cases are very hard, as anything in the way of insurance is impossible here, and great indignation is most justly felt at the unsoldierly and most inexplicable negligence of the official responsible for the transmission of the ammunition returned from Sontai. It is said that this material was unloaded from the lighter on the 26th, and was stored either inside or at the back of the work-

shop, only for the night, as carts were on their way from the citadel to transport it thither at the time the accident occurred. But what man in his senses would allow several tons of powder and charged projectiles to be stowed in proximity to a blacksmith's forge? The officer responsible for this culpable recklessness should certainly consider himself fortunate if he escapes with an ignominious dismissal from the service. I have heard that the Admiral has promised to press for an indemnity from the Government to the civilian sufferers, as the terrible consequences were not the result of ordinary accident but were directly caused by the grossest neglect or stupidity on the part of a Government official. It is certainly only just that some compensation should be made to the ruined unfortunates, but I fear that if any reparation be made, it will be after long delay. The total loss, independent of Government property, would probably be about \$60,000.

Information was received on the 26th that a large body of Annamites and Chinese were posted between the Bamboo post, on the Songkoi, and Namdinh, and the gunboat *Faufare* was despatched down the river the same day, while a reinforcement of two companies of marine infantry was sent to Namdinh on the morning of the 27th by the transport *Ruri-maru*.

Haiphong, 5th Jan.

Owing to the long delay in despatching the s.s. *Namvian* to Hongkong these lines will reach you at the same time as my last letter from Hanoi, and as no events of importance have transpired since then I shall have little to add.

I came down from Hanoi on the 29th ult. by the launch *Traly*, recently purchased in Hongkong by Messrs. Rogue Frères, and not yet taken over by the French authorities. We had a quiet and pleasant run down, towing three cargo boats with us, and saw nothing of the pirates who are still to be found in considerable bands round about Mount Elephant. A considerable commotion was made at the Bamboo Post on the morning of the 29th by information being received there that a large force of Annamites and the Chinese were in the vicinity, probably the same band which attacked Hai duong a month since, and which was afterwards dispersed from the neighbourhood of Haiphong by the prompt action of Major Coronat. The telegraph line, erected along the river bank, is now completed between Hanoi and Namdinh, passing through the post at Bamboo village.

On the 30th ult. the transport *Mytho* arrived at Halong Bay, and the reinforcements brought out by her have since been transhipped by the *Drac* and *Soane* and landed at Haiphong. These consist of four hundred and eighty men of the marine infantry, about two hundred sailors from the *Villars* and other men-of-war, for the naval brigade, and fifty men and three officers, with their horses, comprising half a squadron, of the Chasseurs d'Afrique. The latter are the first detachment of cavalry that have arrived in Tonquin, and will probably be found very useful in the forthcoming operations against Bacninh. On Sunday, the 30th ult., a parade of the troops comprising the garrison of Haiphong took place, when the men were carefully inspected by the commandant, Major Coronat. A great deal of soreness exists amongst the officers at Hanoi at the appointment of Lieut. Colonel Badans as chief of the staff of Admiral Courbet in place of Major Coronat, who held that post under General Bonet, and who is considered, by all who have had an opportunity of judging, to be in every respect more suited to execute satisfactorily the onerous duties of that most important position.

A number of the officers and men wounded during the operations at Sontai have since been embarked on board the

Mytho for return to France, as well as some of the time-expired men belonging to the marine infantry.

Some movements among the troops at Hanoi have taken place during the last week, this being mainly for the purpose of changing the garrisons at Sontai, Phalan and Batang. At Sontai a reconnaissance was made across the river by a detachment of two companies, who encountered a force of some four or five hundred Chinese and Annamites. A short engagement ensued, in which two of the French soldiers were wounded and about thirty of the enemy killed. With this exception all has been quiet at Sontai since the return of the main body of troops to Hanoi.

The gunboats *Leopard* and *Lynx* have for some time past been cruising between Haiduong and Bacninh, and on Christmas Day the former vessel came across a body of Annamite guerrilla about a thousand strong, while going up the river towards the entrance to the Bacninh Canal. The *Leopard* opened fire upon them, but was unable to land any men to follow them up. It was therefore impossible to know what damage was done to the band. Previous to this the same vessel had approached within a short distance of Bacninh and had shelled an outlying fort, which was afterwards entered by a landing party and thoroughly dismantled, all the guns being thrown into the Canal.

Accounts as to the strength of Bacninh and the Chinese garrison there vary very considerably, and it is at present quite uncertain whether an attack will be made there before the arrival of the three thousand men under the command of General Millot, who left France on the 23rd Dec., or not. At present, however, no movements have been made tending to that end, and if operations are not commenced before the 15th inst. it is almost certain that the attack will not be made before the second week of next month, as moonlight nights are considered by the French a great desideratum for operations in the field. Before that time, however, the new reinforcements will probably have arrived, and with them the new General, and it is possible the Admiral may come to the conclusion to risk all for the purpose of adding to his laurels before he is supplanted in the general command.

The decoration of the Cross of the Legion of Honour has been pretty freely distributed amongst officers and others out here, and amongst the last batch of *décorés* appear the names of Captain George, of Yellor Flag fame, and Messrs. Bonnal and Marquis, the Residents at Hanoi and Haiphong. The first-named gentleman with us doesn't deserve the honour as much as any officer in the French army in Tonquin, as the services rendered by him to the Government while organizing and commanding his corps of auxiliaries were invaluable; but what possible claim to the distinction can be found for Messrs. Bonnal and Marquis is a puzzle to all. The latter has discharged the oft-times unpleasant duties of his office without giving great offence, certainly, and has distinguished himself by going out on one or more occasions at the head of his invaluable Tonquinese militia against the redoubtable pirates, but M. Bonnal!—of all the officials in Tonquin the most unpopular, the most officious and offensive, and whose only claim to distinction can be found in his readiness to assume and carry out the rôle of superintendent executioner of the unfortunate natives who are scooped into his net. M. Bonnal was the man through whose execution, without trial, of a soldier of the Yellow Flags, the Government lost the valuable services of Captain George and his corps. The cross must indeed be getting cheap.—*China Mail Cor.*

After a storm comes a calm, and the fall of Sontai having now ceased to be even

an exciting topic of conversation, Haiphong has again relapsed into its usual stagnant quietude. The ordinary routine of military duties in the garrison is occasionally varied by a march out or reconnaissance in search of pirates or guerilla bands. Such an expedition was made on the 7th inst., in which the newly-arrived troop of Chasseurs d'Afrique took part; but the country traversed by the detachment and villages passed through were found to be perfectly quiet and untroubled by any hostile force.

Amongst the recent arrivals from Europe are half a dozen Sisters of Mercy, some of whom have gone up to Hanoi, while the others remain here. They are already doing good work in the hospitals, soothing the restless spirits and smoothing the uneasy pillows of the sick and wounded. I hear that two or three *vandières* also arrived with the troops in the *Mytho*, but I have not yet seen any of these favourites of the regiment. The greater part of the last reinforcements have already been sent up to Hanoi, the cavalry, however, still remaining in their quarters at the old *China Merchants'* godowns. The men of this corps certainly look like a serviceable body for rough work, but they lack the smartness of equipment and carriage that we are accustomed to see in English light cavalry.

Several new appointments have recently been made here on the civil staff. The Harbour-master has again been changed, the last incumbent holding the office for about three months only; the new official is a naval officer, and a "howling swell" when compared with his predecessors. I don't know whether he had assumed office a fortnight or three weeks when the port authorities committed a most unpardonable blunder, to suit the whim, I believe, of the commander of one of the gunboats. A painted post, or beacon, had been for a long period fixed in the middle of the channel, or fair way, between the inner and outer bars, and was always used as a guide by vessels entering. A short time since, without any notice being published, this mark was removed five hundred yards and fixed up, without any change of colour or otherwise, close to the north bank. As you will probably have heard in Hongkong, the first victim to this piece of bungling was the s.s. *Pignon*, which, on her last trip to Hongkong, ran aground on the north bank, entirely owing to this mischievous change in the position of the beacon. Fortunately the vessel got off safely after discharging part of her cargo, but had the steamer been lost it is questionable if anything in the way of compensation could have been obtained from the French Government, in spite of their undoubted responsibility for the accident.

Another new appointment is that of M. Sylvestre, who arrived in the M.M. s.s. *Illyssus*, from Saigon, to take up the post of Chief of the Civil Staff. M. Sylvestre holds the rank of chief of battalion in the marine infantry, but has been temporarily transferred to the Civil Administration, in which he holds a position superior to that of the local Residents, and is responsible only to the Admiral or General in supreme command in Tonquin.

As a sequel to the discovery at Sontai of documents criminating certain Chinese traders in Hanoi, two of the leading hong men have already been arrested there for complicity in importing and forwarding arms and ammunition to the Black Flags at Sontai. What will be done with the culprits remains to be seen. It is probable, however, that they will simply be expelled from the country.

At Namdinh, Colonel Brionville, who has recently been strongly reinforced from Hanoi, has been taking the field against the army of Annamites and Chinese which I mentioned in my last letter as having been encountered between that

place and the Bamboo Post. A steam launch which arrived last night brought the intelligence that the native force was in full retreat, yesterday, with Colonel Brionville's troops close behind them. It is, however, very improbable that the French troops will be able to overhaul the flying foe, as they have no baggage and can move over the country at a much quicker pace than European soldiers. The band will probably be dispersed and scattered over the country in small detachments.

In a former letter from Hanoi, I stated that M. Tricon, after a short visit to Tonquin, had left for Europe. It appears, however, that M. Tricon had a political mission entrusted to him by the home Government to fulfill before leaving for France. This was the ratification of the treaty of Hué with the new King of Annam. The ex-minister proceeded to Hué, from Touron, and there had a personal interview with the King and his chief councillors and after making a few unimportant amendments in the treaty effected by M. Harmand, obtained the signature of the King to the document. M. Tricon arrived here in the gunboat *Alhouette* from Hué on the 8th instant and proceeds to-day to Hanoi for the purpose of interviewing Admiral Courbet, and, his mission being completed, he will, after a few days, return to Europe. M. Tricon was informed that the late King was poisoned on account of his proving obstinate and unamenable to the advice of his councillors. The new sovereign, Kin Fak, is a youth of fifteen years of age and is a son of one of Tu-duc's brothers, and nephew to the late King. A council of the most important officials of the realm has been appointed to act as a Regency until His youthful Majesty arrives at the age of discretion, and the chief official of this council is about to proceed to Tonquin, where he promises very shortly to restore order, on behalf of the French, or to forfeit his head. The French garrison, which was formerly quartered in the forts of Thuan-an, at the entrance to the Hué river, has now been established at Hué itself, and a further guard of five hundred French soldiers are to be quartered in the citadel to provide for the safety of the new King. All the terms of the re-arranged treaty were settled and subscribed to during an interview between the King and M. Tricon, lasting about twenty minutes, and it is probable this ready acquiescence on the part of the Annamite Government is ascribable to the crushing blow received by the fall of Sontai. M. Champeau, the French resident at Hué, who had removed from the capital to Saigon, on the death of the late King, has been reinstated in his elegantly appointed quarters in the capital, and there seems reason to believe that now that the Annamite Government has lost the assistance of its most formidable allies, the Black Flags, the anti-French intrigues, which have been carried on by the Government and their supporters in Tonquin ever since the treaty was first signed at Hué, will cease, and submission to the terms of the protectorate established by France be accepted throughout the country. The capture of Bacninh will be the death-blow to the national or anti-French party, and from present appearances this is likely to be effected before the end of the current month.

Admiral Courbet very wisely keeps his plans and intentions to himself, but an order came down to the Chief of the Commissariat here last night to prepare and forward to Hanoi, at once, one hundred and twenty thousand rations, which means a fortnight's provisioning for five thousand men, and looks like taking the field at an early date.—*China Mail Cor.*

Haiphong, 10th Jan.

AFFAIRS AT HUÉ.

According to the *Saigon Indépendant* the death of Hiep-hoa, the King of Annam, was undoubtedly the work of the mandarins, who poisoned him under the following circumstances.—The mandarins had never accepted the Hué treaty; they have submitted to what they could not prevent, but only did what they were compelled. The King, for the most part, submitted to the influence of these, and there were lively conflicts as to whether the action of the unhappy sovereign was to be controlled by French or Chinese influence. It was to one of these conflicts, puerile in appearance but important in its consequences, that Hiep-hoa succumbed. According to ancient and solemn usage the King received no stranger otherwise than in public and official audience; generally he did not receive them at all. The Hué treaty, therefore, in order to make clear to the people the supremacy of the French Resident, stipulated that he should have the right to see the King in private when he so wished. M. de Champeaux the Resident, availing himself of this right, requested an audience. This was not refused, but it was adjourned from day to day on various idle pretexts. M. de Champeaux at last insisted, and Hiep-hoa had to decide. The mandarins wished him definitely to refuse the audience; the partisans of France, who were becoming more numerous, wished him to accord it. The King received M. de Champeaux on the 27th November; the following morning he was found dead in bed, poisoned.

Up to the present the mandarins have not named a successor to Hiep-hoa. The government is carried on by the Council of Ministers under the presidency of the mandarin in charge of the defence of Thuan-an, who is the leader of the anti-French party.

After the death of Hiep-hoa the provisional Government denounced the treaty to the French legation, and even tried to induce M. de Champeaux to leave. To this he replied by bringing up another hundred men from Thuan-an, so that the legation is now guarded by a force of 150 men. This was not a useless precaution, for the mandarins have attempted to isolate the legation and cut off communications with Thuan-an, and land communication with Touron has in fact been stopped, but between Thuan-an and the legation communication is easily carried on by the river; Touron can now only be reached by sea.

M. Tricon arrived at Touron on the 28th ult. invested with full powers for the negotiation of a new treaty.—*Daily Press.*

CANTON.

Affairs here are quiet. The suppression of inflammatory fly sheets has had a most beneficial effect. The work of calling in recruits still continues. The prospect of promotion to official rank is held out to any who manifest skill and valour in the service of their country. The large cities on the sea-board are being called upon to take greater precautions against the probable enemy. At the same time the people are exhorted not to molest foreign residents in China, as there are many from countries which are still on amicable terms with her.

There is some anxiety felt as to probable development of disorder about Chinese New Year. Some are of opinion that the secret societies may make a move about that time. I don't think there is need for alarm in Canton, as any outbreak on the part of such would most likely take place in the country. The immense expense to which China is committed will tax her resources to the utmost. Two years of the present rate of expenditure, it is thought, would prove most ruinous to China, and compel her to submit to almost any terms.

The customary cards, when any money is wanted, are being served on the banks, pawnshops, etc., which proceeding indicates that the authorities have to bestir themselves to meet current expenses. It is to be hoped that these frictions with foreign countries would prove beneficial to China herself in forcing her to develop her own mineral and other resources. Possibly the immediate effect will be to induce China to increase her foreign debt. Should such be the case, China will have to find means to increase her revenue. But of this it is hard to judge, as only receipts from the Customs are made public.

I understand that representations have been made by some Chinese officials to the Peking authorities requesting that some steps be taken for the permanent protection of Shamen. In consequence of these a camp has been formed called Tsing Wai Ying, or peace-protecting camp, or the camp for preserving peace and insuring protection.

In consequence of a reflection cast by the Hongkong native papers upon the character of some Christian banner-men, the Tartar General has had an investigation and cleared the soldiers from all guilt. I imagine the editors of the native papers would find the General anything but kindly disposed towards them if he could just lay hands on them. It would certainly serve them right and be a sharp lesson for them if they could be made subject to their own laws for a brief period. The liberty of the press is a boon which they know not how to appreciate or use. It does not argue well for any paper that prints an absurd report and then has to acknowledge it is wrong and make profuse apologies the next day. If some enterprising foreigner with a knowledge of Chinese and some discretion were to start a native paper I have no doubt the confidence of the Chinese in newspapers might be restored, a benefit conferred on the people and profit derived by the editor.—*China Mail Cor.*

9th Jan.

The Kwangtung Authorities are displaying unwonted energy in preparing for war. They have commenced putting up the poles on the telegraph line to Kwangsi and Yunnan, or Tonquin frontier, in order to get near the seat of war, and thus be enabled to secure the earliest possible news. According to a writer in the *Mercury*, reproduced in to-day's *Daily Press*, this line has been authorized by the Emperor, and is to take precedence of the line between this port and Shanghai. This looks like business, and as though the Chinese Government expected a complication.

The Chinese officials are also actively engaged in building forts, pitching camps, filling up and making barriers all the way to the mouth of the river. They have some 400 or more skilled masons and bricklayers at work besides the soldiers, paying them extra high wages to urge them on.

An official communication was sent by the Viceroy to all the Consuls yesterday that the Government was intending to put a permanent barrier in the direct channel, then to lay torpedoes, and to throw a bridge across the other passage at Blenheim's Reach with a draw 70 feet wide.

A joint proclamation was issued on the 4th instant by the Imperial High Commissioner Peng Yu-lin, the Viceroy, and Governor, calling upon the gentry and people to prepare energetically to repel the enemy, thereby meaning the French. The few sentences which refer to other foreigners are very satisfactory, as evincing a desire to keep and cultivate the good will of other nations. For this, I think they deserve credit, and I trust it will have the effect of toning down the anti-foreign feeling which has latterly been developing among the mob.—*Daily Press.*

10th January.

The news of a possible French occupation of Hainan Island, with its wealth of copper and iron, its agricultural and productive capabilities and other great natural resources, caused a considerable stir in native official and other circles here. With that excitability and precipitancy, which in the hour of danger is so marked a characteristic of low forms of civilization, all available troops were hastily got together and a considerable number actually despatched to the threatened scene of action; cooler and more mature counsels, however, seem to have prevailed since, and I understand that the soldiers who have not yet actually left will have their orders to proceed to Hainan countermanded, and the men who have already left will reinforce the troops on the Tonquin border instead of remaining in Hainan as at first intended. The effective strength of the Canton garrison will not therefore now be weakened by the despatch of troops to a scene of operations, where, cut off by the superior power of the French fleet from their base of operations, the Chinese troops could render but a feeble opposition to the threatened French occupation; while the sending away of a large number of men would seriously weaken the Canton garrison.

Although extensive preparations against possible contingencies are actively going on and many torpedoes have been prepared as also several large caisson-shaped odd-looking craft laden with stones have been towed down the river, I am assured that nothing has yet been actually done towards blocking up the river with stones, torpedoes, &c., &c., as I have seen elsewhere reported; and I now have it, on the best authority, that an ample passage both in depth and breadth will be left for the largest of our river steamers, even in the event of hostilities actually breaking out. H. K. Wan, the Arsenal superintendent here, is reported to be very busily engaged in the manufacture of torpedoes and electrical apparatus for firing them. I have seen some accumulators, insulated wire, electric bells, &c., &c., made by this gentleman, which are fully equal, both in practical use and also external appearance, to the best foreign workmanship. H. K. Wan has also turned out some hundreds of boilers and engines both small and large, and has both built and engined many vessels, some of them carrying heavy guns, rendering them really most formidable craft. When it is remembered that not a single boiler accident or serious break-down of any kind has occurred on board any one of these vessels, and that all this has been done by a man unable to speak a single word of English or any other foreign language, it will be seen that very great credit is due to so energetic and intelligent an official. Wan, it may be remarked, is one of the very few red buttoned mandarins willing to put their own hands to any really practical or useful labour.

I observe that the intelligence which I communicated to you some few weeks ago relative to the steps taken to form a local militia is confirmed by the translation of Peng Yu-lin's memorial, which you published yesterday; the accuracy of my information was at the time called in question by a correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* who will now probably admit the correctness of my observations. The French gunboat *Lutin* left here last night and will probably have arrived in Hongkong before this reaches you.

The following is a translation of the circular despatch sent by the Viceroy of the Two Kwang to the foreign Consuls at Canton:—

Kwangsu 9th year, 12th month, 11th day.

I have the honour to inform you that I have received from the Board of Provincial Administration a report running as follows:—

"We humbly beg to bring to your notice that two camps have been established on the Canton river in the neighbourhood of Pai-tu-kang, and that consequently measures must be taken, for the sake of easy communication between the two banks, to bridge this waterway.

"Furthermore it will be necessary to close the Whampoa waterway, as a torpedo station has been established there, and continual torpedo exercise is going on; this in order to avoid that ships trading there do not come in contact with the water mines.

"In concurrence with General Wu, who commands the troops coming from Hui-an-fu (in the province of Kiangsu), we have decided to bridge the river Hsi-kang in the neighbourhood of Pai-tu-kang with a wooden structure, thus making a direct communication with the place Sha-lu and making intercourse between the two banks of the river easy for the troops. As, however, ships are continually passing at this point, and the steamers of all nations use this waterway when going up to Canton, it will be necessary to leave an opening in the middle of the bridge and at the deepest point of the water, of about 6 to 7 *ch'ang*, thus allowing the ships traffic.

"As foreign built ships of large size do not frequent the Whampoa waterway, and as torpedo practice is taking place there at present, a closing of the same is unavoidable, so that by no mischance ships might be injured.

"We have therefore agreed with Major Huang Ting-yao, who commands the Government junks, to close the river near the islands Yü-chu and Tun-sha, and to put up the necessary obstructions to stop the passage of ships, thus avoiding their destruction by the mines. Having given the necessary written instructions to this effect, we will not fail to bring the above to your Excellency's notice, asking at the same time to give all naval and military garrisons the necessary instructions.

"We furthermore beg of your Excellency to give due intimation to the Consuls of all the Treaty Powers, so that they may instruct all steamers that, in navigating the Canton river they have to make use of the waterway passing by Sha-lu, and to take care not to damage the wooden bridge, and that they may not use the waterway passing by Yü-shu in order to avoid collision with the obstructions placed there and the consequent destruction. We beg to enclose a plan showing all details."

I, the Governor-General, have thereupon given you the necessary notification and ask you to give all steamers flying the flag of your country the necessary instructions, so that they may carry out and comply with the measures taken. Enclosed is a plan showing all the details. I have the honour to be

(Card of the Viceroy).

CHANG SHU-SHENG.

—*Daily Press Cor.*

Notes by trans.—Kai Tu-kang is marked on the Chart as Daue's Island—6 to 7 *Ch'ang* are equal to 60 to 70 Chinese feet or 70 to 80 English feet. Yü-chu is called Louisa Island, and Tunsha, Flat Island on the Chart.

NAGASAKI.

We regret to hear that a serious fire has for some days past been raging in the coal mine at Takasima, and that, despite strenuous exertions to extinguish it, is still burning. It is reported that eight of the native employees, including two head engineers, have been suffocated by the foul air whilst endeavouring to put the fire out. Since Tuesday last we believe the mining and out-put has been entirely stopped, to enable every energy being directed towards devising means of extinguishing the fire. We hope shortly to hear that the efforts put forth have been successful, and that the mine is again in full working order.

The Imperial Government Telegraph Department notify that a large fire broke out in Osaka on Wednesday last, in Uchi-hon-machi. A strong north westerly wind was blowing at the time, and 2,595 houses were burnt before the fire,—which lasted from 10 p.m. till 6 a.m. on Thursday,—was subdued. Fifty nine men are also reported to have been injured.—*Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express.*

OSAKA.

We had beautiful weather for the New Year festivities, and judging from appearances the fine days seem likely to continue. As usual, the Concession has been quiet during the holidays, but in the city one round of pleasure was the rule. Fighting between the police and soldiers seemed very prevalent, and numbers of the patrol houses were demolished by the military. The most desperate encounter occurred in Matsushima, quite a number on both sides were wounded, and a rumour which is probably without foundation says that several of the combatants were killed. These continual disturbances are attributable in great measure to the vicious custom of permitting the soldiers to wear side-arms when on leave. Many of them get drunk, of course, and are then eager for a row with the police. If the latter were given full liberty of action they would make short work of the soldiers, for the Osaka police are a fine body of men, and very superior to the ordinary run of the garrison troops. On the occasion of the disturbances the other day a number of officers had to be fetched from the Castle, and they succeeded in getting their men to withdraw to barracks.

The new dry dock connected with the Osaka Iron Works has been completed, and reflects much credit upon Mr. Barry, the superintendent shipwright of the company, who planned and carried out the whole work. Considering the piece of land available is only from 100 to 150 ft. wide, with a river on either side, it seems wonderful the dock has proved such a perfect success, and so thoroughly watertight. The dock is 230 ft. in length, by 40 ft. wide, with a draught of 9 ft. 6 in. Quite a number of vessels have already been in for repairs; indeed the place is now occupied and some other steamers waiting their turn.

On the 19th ultimo a new steamer was launched from the Osaka Iron Works. This vessel is 103 ft. on the load line, 108 ft. over all, 15 ft. beam, 7 ft. lower hold, and 5 ft. 10 in. between decks. She will be supplied with compound engines made at the works, and is guaranteed a speed of 12 miles an hour.—*Hiogo News Cor.*
7th January.

Many fires are reported, some of large dimensions. On the 29th ultimo one building of the spinning department of the Senji Woollen Factory was destroyed. On the 30th there were two fires in Tokio. At Nihonbaishi-ku fifteen houses were destroyed and eight damaged: at Hongo-ku fifteen houses were also destroyed. On the 31st sixty houses were destroyed and ten injured at Honjo-ku, while yesterday twenty-nine houses were burnt at Shiba-ku. The largest fire is reported from Kaishoji, Kaga province, as having taken place on the 24th instant. Fourteen streets, comprising 530 houses, 122 godowns, four temples, post office, district office, three bankers', four companies' offices, telegraph office, &c., were a prey to the flames, the course of which is invariably beyond all the appliances available. In this last fire two lives were sacrificed.—*Japan Gazette.*

JAPAN ITEMS FROM THE NATIVE PAPERS.

Some wealthy residents of Kobe intend to form a company to run vessels between that port and Yokohama, charging lower

rates for freight and passengers than either the Mitsu Bishi or the Kioto Unyu Kaisha. The *Asahi-maru*, constructed at the Ono Iron Works, belongs to the chief promoter, and he has another vessel nearly ready for launching at Shinden.

Gold fish are much liked by foreigners. Last year the dealers in Tokio sold 85,405 of these fish to foreign buyers, the total realized being 70,200 yen.

According to a return prepared in the Census Bureau of the Home Department there are in Japan 3,336 music teachers, 7,689 showmen, story-tellers, etc., 1,281 wrestlers, 11,880 singing-girls, 30,105 prostitutes, 2,599 brothels, 415 assignation houses, and 586 wards in which houses of ill-fame are situated.

Some time ago a straw paper factory was established in Kioto by the shizoku who were formerly retainers of the kuge. His Excellency Iwakura took great interest in the concern during his lifetime, and obtained samples of the paper with the view of getting it used in the Tokio schools. His recommendations, and the excellence of the article, caused its acceptance, and this year the managers of the metropolitan educational establishments have sent for large quantities of this paper.

Several steamboat owners of Osaka have formed themselves into a large company. They own 68 steamers, and hope to secure all the Inland Sea trade. The Tokushima Company, and Mr. Nakamura, have not joined the association.

Owing to the continued stagnation in business, the number of letters posted has decreased greatly, and there is a consequent falling off in the revenue of the Department. We hear that the postmen will be reduced in number, and other economies carried into effect.—*Hiogo News Trans.*

On the 2nd inst., 11 A.M. and the Empress proceeded to the Palace at Aoyama, to celebrate the New Year's festival.

On the 1st inst., at 5 a.m., 11 A.M. the Mikado repaired to the Inner Palace and offered prayers to the four cardinal points, in accordance with an old custom. From 7 a.m. H.M. received the Princes of the Blood, the Ministers of State, Privy Counsellors, officers of *shokunin* rank, the Imperial Chamberlains and their Ladies. From 1 o'clock, the Foreign Ministers and their Ladies, and civil and military officers of the 6th rank, made their calls.

On 4th inst., being the opening day of the State Council, the Emperor will repair to the Council Chamber.

Mr. Takezoze, our Minister to Corea, left for the Atami hot springs yesterday. H.E. Yamada will also proceed there, on two weeks' leave of absence.

The export duties paid at the Yokohama Customs during last year amounted to 1,016,541, and the import duties to 893,337 yen which, in addition to miscellaneous income, make a total of 1,934,970 yen.

On the 3rd inst., more than 100 soldiers and some policemen had a quarrel at Ginza, Tokio, during which two of the latter were seriously wounded.

From the 30th last month to the 3rd inst. four fires occurred at Tokio, destroying 102 houses.—*Herald Trans.*

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

November 12th.—(1) A Memorial from Shiang Hsien, Director of the Imperial Court of Entertainment, urging the necessity of exercising more careful supervision over the collectorates of customs and octroi in Peking which are rife with abuses of various kinds. He calls special attention to a practice which prevails of each newly appointed Superintendent (who is changed annually) deputing one of his personal servants to assist the official examiner in the inspection of dutiable articles as they enter

the gates. The motive with which the practice was instituted was that the Superintendent might keep a check, by means of a trusted and confidential dependent, on the action of the official examiner, but the result has generally been that the two work in collusion to oppress the tax-payer, and enrich themselves. Fines for breaches of regulation which are limited by statute are levied largely in excess of the authorised amount on the slightest pretext, and so arbitrary and oppressive have these exactions become that the customs of the capital is a byword amongst the people, and trade has been seriously hampered. The Memorialist is informed by the Deputy Superintendent of Customs that Pa Yang-a, the examiner nominated by the present Superintendent, and Yen Fu, the Superintendent's confidential retainer, have been particularly notorious for their wholesale extortions. Numbers of mule drivers and others who have refused to comply with their demands have been imprisoned and tortured, and five fruit merchants have become bankrupt in consequence of their exactions, which reached in the particular case the Memorialist refers to the sum of Tls. 1500 in fines alone. A foreign paper-shop had to pay a fine of Tls. 3000 to these same men, and even the Senior *Ngo Fu* (husband of an Imperial Princess) was their victim to the extent of a fine of Tls. 400. All these cases and many more not enumerated have occurred within the last two months, and if His Majesty will be pleased to summon K'o Meng-o, the Deputy Superintendent, he will be able to substantiate the allegations now made. In bringing this state of things to His Majesty's notice the Memorialist begs to suggest two measures for the prevention of the abuses he indicates. He would propose, first, that the Superintendent be made responsible for the shortcomings of his subordinates, and, second, he would have the rules regarding the fines which can be legitimately levied properly enunciated. (For Decree answering this Memorial see *Gazette* of 18th October; also *Gazettes* of 30th October and 1st November.)

November 13th.—(1) A Decree ordering a donation of two months' pay and rations to be bestowed upon the Imperial clansmen direct and collateral in view of the inclemency of the season and the hardness of the times. Widows and orphans belonging to the same class are to receive one month's allowance. In a separate Decree the same privilege is extended to banner-men and all branches of the military service.

(2) The following high officers are accorded permission to ride within the Forbidden City.

O-lo-ho-pu, President of the Board of Revenue.

Wu-la-hsi ch'ung-a, President of the Mongolian Superintendency.

Yen Hsu, Senior President of the Court of Censors.

Kuang Shun, Comptroller of the Imperial Household.

November 14th.—(1) A Decree in answer to a representation from Li Hung-chang authorising the Governor-General to make such arrangements as he may find on enquiry to be necessary, for reducing the rents upon lands in Chihli which are the property of princes, dukes, and other members of the nobility who hold these lands under fief granted to their ancestry. The rents upon other lands which are the property of some of the Banner Corps upon which annual rents are paid, are similarly to be reduced for the current year, in view of the general distress that prevails.

(2) A Memorial from the Censor Liu En-pu with reference to the unsatisfactory nature of the supervision that is exercised by the Superintendent of the Peking Customs over the collection of duties upon goods entering the metropolis. It is commonly reported that the reason why it is the

custom for the Superintendents never to pay a personal visit of inspection to the office under their control, is because when a Superintendent once ventured to do so some years ago, the office most unaccountably took fire. The result is that there is a prejudice amongst Superintendents against formally entering upon the duties of their post, for their servants would, in the event of their doing so, arrange with the Customs underlings that the office should thereupon take fire. The object of the Memorialist in bringing this matter to the notice of His Majesty is that he may venture a suggestion that Superintendents of Customs be hereafter called upon to visit their offices at stated periods, and that they may be exempt from penalties in the event of these offices taking fire.

(3) A Postscript Memorial from the same officer. He heard some time ago that one T'ien, a servant of the Superintendent of Customs, was in the habit of sitting judicially in the front court attached to the Ch'ung Wen Customs Office to hear cases of evasion of duty by petty smugglers, whom he used to correct by the infliction of a beating with the hand or with the bamboo as the case might be, and that the officer on duty was afraid to interfere with him. It was also alleged that this same individual inflicted a fine of Tls. 2,000 upon the ladies of the family of a Taotai in Pukien who, on returning to Peking, brought with them some ten striking clocks as presents to their relations and friends. He refused to allow the name of the Taotai to be quoted under pain of striking the person on the mouth who dared to plead for the possession of the clocks. The Memorialist would venture to suggest that this case be included in the enquiry which is now to be held by an Imperial Commission.

November 15th.—(1) A Memorial from K'o Meng-o, the Deputy Superintendent of Customs and Oetroi in Peking, corroborating the statements regarding the excessive fines levied and cruelties practised by the servant of the Chief Superintendent Jui Lien and the *weiquan* appointed by the latter. The Memorialist explains that he made these disclosures to Shang Hsien, the Director of a minor Court, who reported them to His Majesty in a moment of vexation at his failure to put a stop to these abuses, but he was not aware that his friend would intrude them upon His Majesty's notice.

(2) A Memorial from Sé Léng-o, Imperial Resident in Tibet. In the summer of the year 1881 the Assistant Governor at Tarbagatai wrote to the Memorialist to inform him that the *hutukt'u* Kunk'och'ala having asked him, the Assistant Governor, to apply for permission for the *hutukt'u* to return on leave to his home in Tibet and also to have audience of the Dalai Lama, His Majesty on being applied to had, in due course, accorded the requisite permission. The Memorialist on receipt of this letter communicated with the Treasurers of Anterior and Ulterior Tibet, calling upon them reverently to give effect to His Majesty's commands. The said *hutukt'u* has now reported to the Memorialist that he left the temple known as the Ch'eng-hua Ssü in Altai mountains in the 7th moon of the 7th year (1881) and reached the seat of the Dalai Lama in the month of April last. Having made obeisance to the Pontiff, he entered the Great Temple to undergo a course of study and abstinence, and he had now to report that His Holiness the Dalai Lama had been good enough to bestow upon him the sacerdotal name of Chiamput'utopu in place of the name he went by before. As he begged that this change of name might be reported to His Majesty, the Memorialist accordingly submits the details. Rescript.—It is noted.

November 16th.—The only documents worthy of record in this day's issue are a series of reports from metropolitan Censors regarding the improvement of police sur-

veillance in Peking, the substance of which has already been embodied in decrees that have previously appeared.

November 17th.—(1) Hsi Yüan, Governor of Kirin, reports the steps that he has taken in obedience to Imperial commands received a month ago, calling upon him to procure some of the first quality of wild ginseng for the use of the Imperial Household, the supply forwarded from his province last year being nearly at an end. On receipt of these orders the Memorialist at once directed one of the Colonels under his command to take steps to procure a certain quantity of the root. This officer was successful in getting six large roots, and twelve small roots, weighing in all 5 ounces 6 mace, and of a quality that might fairly be called superior. The cost of these roots was Tls. 840.5, which was paid for out of the Customs duties at the Memorialist's disposal. Having first inspected them in person, the Memorialist proceeded to have them packed in two boxes which were carefully wrapped up and closely sealed, after which they were handed over to Ch'üan Tê, Captain of Manchü Infantry, to be taken to Peking and presented to the office of the Imperial Household. The Colonel has been instructed to continue to look out for more roots, and when these are procured they will be forwarded in a separate package to Peking. Advice of the despatch of the two cases has been sent to the office of the Imperial Household.—Rescript: It is noted.

(2) A Memorial from Yang Ch'ang-chün, Director-General of Grain Transport, reporting that he has forwarded Tls. 10,000 from the opium *lekin* receipts in his hands in aid of the distress in the Shun-t'ien Prefecture, which he has added an offering of Tls. 1,000 from his private funds. He proposes later on to forward a second remittance of Tls. 10,000 towards the same object. In reporting the transmission of this contribution the Memorialist takes occasion to point out that he has taxed the resources of the province to their utmost limit in furnishing these funds.

November 18th.—(1) A Decree ordering certain criminals guilty of robbery with violence in broad daylight who have been captured in the eastern division of Peking, to be handed over to the Board of Punishments, and two long Memorials reporting the capture of run-away criminals in Yünnan and Anhui respectively, occupy the whole of this day's issue.

Official Papers.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

IMPORTANT PROCLAMATIONS BY P'ENG YÜ-LIN.

I.

Proclamation issued at Canton the 7th day of the 12th moon (January 4th 1884) concerning forming Naval and Land Volunteer Corps along the Coast Board of the Province of Kuangtung.

I, P'eng, Imperial High Commissioner, in conjunction with Chang, Viceroy of Kuangtung and Kuangsi, and Yü, Fu-t'ai of Kuangtung, do hereby make the following Proclamation to the different Prefectures and Magistracies along the sea-coast, to form Naval and Land Volunteer Corps for the better preservation of its defences. The Coast Board of Kuangtung consists of a line extending over 3,000 li. The Middle Division comprises the Prefecture of Kuang-chou Fu (Canton) whose dependencies consist of the Magistracies of Nan-hai, P'an-yü, Tung-yuan, Shun-t'eh, Hsiang-san (Macao) Chien-ch'eng, Hsin-huei, Hsin-ngan and Hsin-ning. To these above-named Magistracies we have already issued important orders for the forming of Land Volunteer Regiments among the

villages, and Naval Volunteer Brigades among the Fishing population. The Eastern Division of the Coast Board consists of the Magistracies of Hai-feng and Luh-feng, which are dependencies of the Prefecture of Huai-chou Fu and the Magistracies of Ch'ao-yang, Chih-yang, Ch'eng-hai, Siao-p'ing and Huai-lai which are contained in the Prefecture of Ch'ao-chou Fu (Swatow.) The Western Division of the Coast Board consists of the Prefectures of Tsao-ch'ing Fu, containing the Magistracies of Yang-chiang and Ngên-p'ing; Kao-chou Fu consisting of the Magistracies of Hua-chou, Tien-peh and Wu-chuan; Lien-chou Fu, consisting of the magistracies of Heh-p'u; Lei-chou Fu containing the Magistracies of Huai-k'ang, Sui-ch'í and Hsi-wen, and lastly Ch'ung-chou Fu, (Hainan) whose dependencies are the Magistracies of Ch'ung-san, Ch'eng-li, T'ing-ngan, Chan-chou, Wen-ch'ang, Ch'ang-hua, Hsuei-tung, Loh-huei, Ling-kao, Wan-chou, Ling-shui, Yen-chou, and Kan-ngên. All the above-named cities and districts are along the sea coast and it is of the greatest importance that earnest measures should be undertaken to form Land and Water Volunteer Brigades amongst the inhabitants of those places, for their defence. Upon investigation we find that amongst the population of the cities in question are a great number of men whose pursuits consist in fishing for their livelihood, so that a hundred odd thousand may with ease be gathered together. These men can gather like the wind and tide, they are able to form ambuscades in the water a whole day, and if they are formed into regiments, they may be able to perform marvellous deeds. They could burn the enemy's (French) ships by firing red-hot shot and shell; by using fire-arrows; or by blowing them up by means of torpedoes. For this purpose we now order the different Prefectures and Magistracies to make census of all the fishing boats and their occupants, to form them into temporary guards or perpetual regiments, and having made a list of them to forward it to the different Imperial Naval divisions stationed along the sea coast, so that the Volunteers may be ready at a moment's notice to perform their duties and be drafted to any given point.

We also promise solemnly that should they be able to capture an enemy's ship or by the use of torpedoes blow one up, these men will have separate rewards. Should any one, however, attempt to make false representations, after receiving notification to give their services to the State, or having received their arms and ammunition, turn traitors and give secret aid or guidance to the enemy, then such persons upon being found out shall suffer immediate decapitation according to military law. These are the important points to be observed in forming Naval Corps of Volunteers.

Furthermore in every Prefecture and Magistracy there are important points to be held. Now for this work troops brought from a distance are by no means so good as those of the Militia brigades formed on the spot. These latter should therefore be embodied to guard these points, and, by continual practice in drilling in camps, be able when the time comes to form some well conducted plan, and thus prevent the enemy from despoiling and gaining possession of our villages. We therefore order the different Prefectures and Magistracies to form the Volunteer Brigades, and, selecting the best and most able-bodied men, form them into regiments and turn them over to the defence guards. All these men should be earnestly ordered to attend their drills, and the officials are furthermore commanded to concert measures for the storing-up of grain for the men. Should the regiments thus formed, in holding the most important position, succeed in slaying any robbers, they will be rewarded accordingly, but they are prohibit-

ed from making disturbances, or getting into quarrels with the inhabitants. Should any therefore be guilty of such acts they will be dealt with according to military law. These are the important points to be observed in the formation of Land Volunteer regiments.

Now in forming the Volunteer Land and Naval Brigades, it must be known that they are for mutual assistance in battle, and are to act conjointly in the defence of the several tens of Prefectures and Magistracies. This will obviate the necessity of making drafts from the regular army. Let the several Intendants of Circuits, Prefects, Sub-prefects and Magistrates obey this proclamation and moreover issue extra proclamations in order that the people may know our purpose, and that the Volunteer Land and Naval Brigades of each Prefecture and Magistracy along the Coast Board may obey our proclamation, and use their almost endeavours in drilling and practising their different evolutions on land and water, in order to be prepared in time of war, and battle against the enemy. Do not disobey this Special Proclamation for forming Volunteer Brigades. Kuang Hsi, 9th year, 12th moon, 7th day (January 4th 1884).

II.

I, P'eng, Imperial High Commissioner, Junior Guardian of the Heir Apparent, Director of Military Affairs in Kuangtung, President of the Board of War, of the 1st Order of Nobility; in conjunction with Chang, Junior Guardian of the Heir Apparent, President of the Board of War, Vice President of the Court of Censors, Viceroy and Generalissimo of the Liang Kuang Armies, and Superintendent of the Commissariat; and Yü, Vice President of the Board of War, Vice President of the Court of Censors, Futai and Lieutenant General of Kuangtung, and Superintendent of the Commissariat, do hereby make the following Proclamation for forming Volunteer Corps to fight against the enemy. The people of Kuangtung have proved their loyalty and bravery, as may be seen in the 4th year of the Emperor Hsien Fung, when forming eighty-three regiments of Volunteers they swept away the Red Turbaned hordes of marauders. We, having come to Kuangtung to conduct its defences, have already memorialized the Throne concerning the formation of Volunteer Brigades from the villagers and fishermen. We find that the Prefecture of Kuang-chou Fu (Canton) contains the nine Magistracies of Nan Hai, P'an Yü, Tung Yün, Shun Tsh, Hsin San, Ch'eng Ch'eng, Hsin Huei, Hsin Ngan and Hsin Ning. These nine Magistracies are the "gates" of the Sea Coast Defences. Now that at the present moment there are difficulties from the sea, it is extremely necessary that the people of these nine Magistracies should combine together as with one mind in their loyalty, and be a rampart for the defences of the country. So that if there be no actual fighting they should act as guards and secure peace in the rivers, and, in the time of war, show their bravery in resistance against the enemy. This will also save military expenses. We hear that each Magistracy has already numbered each family among the boating population, and taxed them accordingly, for the support of guard boats. Now there are great numbers of boats belonging to the floating population along the banks of the rivers, so that at a call tens of thousands of men can be gathered in a moment. We have therefore given orders to the several military officials and magistrates to collect the gentry and desire them to be diligent in drilling their people, and earnestly call upon the floating population, and, choosing the best, form them into guards to hold the most important positions, so that when the time for meeting the enemy arrives to be ready at once to move to any given point, such as guarding the Metropolis (Canton City) or holding

important points, or preventing the enemy from advancing, or chasing him when he retreats. Should they slay the enemy, or burn or capture his vessels or by using torpedoes blow them up, then we solemnly promise to give extra rewards to the troops. Should however any elders of families give false representations of the number of their men, or conceal their junks, or receiving food and arms turn traitors and guide the enemy, on being found out they will be dealt with according to military law. Should the enemy declare war and fight us in earnest, he will act contrary to Treaty and the wrong is on his side, and we call upon you people to resist him with all your strength. But you are prohibited from molesting the other Treaty nations who are at peace with us. Should any one be guilty of this he will be punished accordingly. We order the several military officials, magistrates and gentry to see to it that extra proclamations be made to that effect to the people, and order all the Volunteer Brigades to obey our Proclamation, and resist to the utmost the enemy, that both Naval and Land Volunteer forces may act in concert, and serve as one body in villages and cities. The Book of Records says, "What Heaven looks upon is the same as what my people look upon; what Heaven listens to is the same as what my people listen to." Therefore in ancient times there was strength in the people, so to the extent of tens of thousands of li people all came from afar into our borders. Whoever rebels against Heaven will surely come to grief.

With reference to the funds necessary, it must be according to the conditions already agreed upon. The defence of your lives and homes must rest upon the wealth of the rich among you and the bravery of the people, and in our sincere hope that each man may exert his utmost strength in their defence. Do not disobey this Special Proclamation for forming the fishing population into Volunteer Corps.

III.

P'eng, Imperial High Commissioner, Chang, President of the Board of War and Viceroy of Liang-kuang, and Yü, Vice-President of the Board of War and Court of Censors, and Futai of Kuang-tung, make this joint proclamation for forming Volunteer Corps of fishermen to act as auxiliaries in active battle or for the purpose of garrison.

As Volunteer Brigades of fishermen are to Volunteer Corps of villagers, so are battles on the water to battles on land. For this purpose we who are now in Kuangtung to conduct its defences have already memorialized the Throne concerning the pros and cons of forming the different Volunteer Corps. We find that the inhabitants of Kuang-tung who live by the sea, are accustomed by nature to winds and tides, and such of those who pursue the calling of fishermen are able some to remain for days in the water and some to dive to the river's bottom and lay ambushes of torpedoes to blow up the enemy's ships. The present moment, being one of great difficulty, is just the time to exert one's self to preserve his country from the invader. With reference to the number of fishing junks, we have at present before us the report of Colonel Wu Ch'ou-wen stating that there are in all 5,000 junks; but should there be any not reported, this shall not exempt them, but they shall be enrolled in the usual manner. The able-bodied fishermen should exert themselves and drill diligently in conjunction with the land volunteers; should the enemy's vessel therefore attempt to force its way through the "gates" of the port (channels leading to Canton and other places), these fishing junks forming in the rear of the regular troops of the Land and Naval Divisions shall prepare in great quantities fire-arrows, fire-balls, and fire-ships, and, employing strategy, gain victory.

Should any gunboat be captured or by means of torpedoes an enemy's ship be blown to pieces extra rewards will be granted to the troops. This we solemnly promise.

Besides the Bocca Tigris there are the Heng Mên, Yen Mên, Wu Tao, and Hu T'iao passes which lead up to the city of Canton, and whose channels join the Canton river on the right just where it branches off in its several directions. Now the naves of the soil alone are able to understand perfectly these channels and passes, so that in times of emergency it is important that the Volunteer fishermen be ready at once to receive orders, either to act as guards or to battle in earnest. They will then be able to slay the invaders, and in such an event will be generously rewarded by us. Should however the elders among the fishermen attempt to conceal the number of their families, or hide their junks, or receiving food and arms become traitors and guide the enemy, on being found out such persons shall suffer by military law. We order, therefore, that colonels of regiments, magistrates, deputies, and the gentry shall make extra proclamations and desire each family living in the junks to obey our Proclamation. That each one may, by exerting his Heaven-born instinct, be of one mind to assist both on water and on land, and thus on the one hand serve their Emperor and on the other protect their homes, is the earnest wish of our souls. Do not disobey this Special Proclamation!

12th moon 7th day (4th January, 1884)

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, the 14th January, 1884, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. A. Myburgh (Chairman), J. S. Ezekiel, C. J. Holliday, P. G. Hübbe, M. Kalb, R. Mackenzie, G. J. Morrison, A. C. Westall, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for week ended 12th inst. is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Nuisance—Szechuen Road.—Letter from Mr. Sylva submitted, complaining of the noise made in front of his house by jinricksha and wheelbarrow men congregating there, and requesting the Council to keep a constable stationed there to regulate the traffic over the bridge, and prevent the jinricksha men from making a noise.—Decided to reply that the Superintendent of Police will be instructed to station a constable in the Szechow Road between the Kiangse and Szechuen Roads, to regulate the traffic over the bridges, and to prevent the assembling of jinricksha, &c., in the neighbourhood.

Outside Roads.—From Camp to Point.—The following correspondence is ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 5th December, 1883.

SIR,—We, the undersigned ratepayers and residents in Shanghai, beg respectfully to bring before your notice the urgent necessity of additional suburban roads, to accommodate the wonderfully increasing traffic on those now in existence. We are quite aware of what has been done towards this object by the present and preceding Councils, and of the obstacles thrown in their way by the native officials; but in bringing forward the following suggestion, we submit that an outlet which has for years been secured to the public of Shanghai, but which in consequence of its unfinished state, has been, except in dry weather impassable, could be easily brought within the reach of the residents, and that too, not only at a very small expense but

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hopkins and carried unanimously.

Mr. COMINS said he wished to bring forward a proposition to increase the number of members to fifty. He said they had now to run a hose truck as well as the hook and ladder truck, and it was difficult to get enough men at the start to pull the two. The men who pulled the trucks usually got to fires fagged out, while those who made their way straight there were as happy and lively as kittens. He had five names to propose.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the proposition involved an alteration in the rules, and it was necessary to have twenty-five members present before they could alter the rules. He said he was going to propose to the Committee that they should enforce the 22nd and 24th rules, by which if a member was absent from a fire without a proper excuse he would be fined a dollar, and if he was absent three times without proper excuse his name would be struck off the roll of the Company. They would then strike off the names of men who did not attend the fires and make room for the men whom Mr. Comins wished to propose.

Mr. LAMMOND wished to propose that the subscription of \$3 should not be collected this year. He said there was a balance in hand of Tls. 200, and he thought that was sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN said that was a matter for the new committee. He then addressed the members on the necessity of their proceeding at once to the truck-house on the occasion of a fire, and helping to drag the truck instead of going at once of the scene of the fire.

NO. 1 CO. S. V. C. MIH-HO LOONG RIFLES.

A meeting of No. 1 Co. S. V. C., was subsequently held, Captain Morrison presiding.

The CHAIRMAN moved that a ball should be given as usual in conjunction with the Mih-ho-loong Hook and Ladder Company.

The motion was carried unanimously.

A joint meeting of the Rifle Company and the Hook and Ladder Company was then held, and the following were elected the Ball Committee:—Messrs. Noël, Hopkins, Burmann, Schuffenhauer Voullement and Wolff, representing the Hook and Ladder Company, and Capt. Morrison, Lieut. Glass, Lieut. Buchanan and Messrs. Dowdall, Gratton and Gubbay representing the Rifle Company.

The meeting of No. 1 Co., S. V. C., was then resumed.

The CHAIRMAN moved that the accounts for the year 1883 should be passed.

The motion was seconded by Lieut. Glass, and adopted.

The CHAIRMAN then moved that the accounts of the ball should be adopted. He said their half share of the expenses amounted to Tls. 98 45.

The motion was carried.

A ballot was then taken for the election of three members to serve on the Committee with the three officers, who are *ex officio* members. The ballot resulted in the election of Messrs. C. Dowdall, J. M. Cory and C. J. Dudgeon.

The CHAIRMAN then remarked that it had been a source of regret to him that he had been so often absent from Shanghai during the past year, but he had tried to do his best for the Company while he was in Shanghai (Cheers). He said on the 31st December the total number in the Company was sixty men, of whom twenty-five were on the efficient list, and were entitled to remain on till the 31st December of this year, this twenty-five included Dr. Little, who, in case of active service, would come out as a surgeon. Then there were eleven recruits (including one or two old members who had rejoined) who had attended the requisite number of drills and had shot two classes and were entitled to rank as efficient till the 31st March of this year; then there were

thirteen old members who had not completed their twelve drills, and eleven recruits who had joined during the year. He thought on the whole this condition was satisfactory, and would compare favourably with that of any other company. He then came to the question of appointing corporals. It had been proposed that they should have corporals. He thought if they had a strong number of efficient men it would be advisable to appoint corporals, but at present if they appointed them he was afraid they would have nobody except men with stripes. The chief difficulty, however, was that many men did not care to accept a corporal's rank. If the men would undertake to accept the corporal's stripes when conferred upon them, the chief difficulty would be done away. It was the wish, though not the command, of Major Holliday that they should elect corporals, and he would move "That four corporals be elected from the members of No. 1 Co, Mih-ho-loong Rifles."

Mr. DOWLEY seconded the motion. On a division, nine voted for the motion and nine against it, some members abstaining from voting. A second vote was then taken, when twelve voted for the motion and twelve against. In order to test the feeling of the privates, the Chairman then took a third vote, excluding the officers, when eight voted for the motion and ten against. The motion was then declared lost.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. R. W. Little.

Amusements.

THE MASONIC CHARITY BALL.

The ball given by the Ancient Free and Accepted Freemasons of Shanghai is always one of the big events of the year, and the host of ladies and gentlemen, masons and their guests and fellow subscribers to the Charity Fund who were present at the Masonic Hall on Thursday evening must one and all bear testimony to the fact that the ball of 1884 was no wit behind its predecessors in brilliance or in the enjoyment it afforded. The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Cornelius Thorne, the honoured head of English Freemasonry in Northern China, whose leadership is acknowledged also by the members of lodges working under other constitutions, was again the President of the Ball Committee, while W. Bro. Drummond Hay acted this year as Treasurer, and Bro. J. Findlay as Secretary. The building was most tastefully decorated under the superintendence of a Committee consisting of W. Bros. W. C. Howard, T. Pemberton, N. P. Andersen, M. H. Cook, O. Middleton and W. H. Anderson, and Bro. J. M. Cory. The invitations were issued by the Right Worshipful President, and W. Bros. T. Pemberton, J. L. Hammond, W. C. Howard, R. D. Starkey and A. Jolusford; the programme of dances was drawn up and the musical arrangements were made by W. Bros. G. B. Fentum, E. P. Lalaca, J. L. Hammond and Drummond Hay; and the provision of light and substantial bodily refreshments was made under the guidance of a Committee composed of W. Bros. C. M. Donaldson, D. C. Jansen, W. H. Anderson, J. L. Hammond and Drummond Hay. The decorations were particularly artistic, though they were somewhat less elaborate and with fewer masonic emblematic designs than at some previous balls. The designers had avoided the common fault of repeating themselves. At too many of the balls with which the Shanghai season is enlivened the decorations of one year exactly reproduce those of previous years; but in this case the designs were essentially different from those of last year. A brilliant star of gas-jets on the face of the building shed a

bright light over the neighbouring portion of the bund. The covered way which led from the street to the entrance hall was filled with evergreens and flowers; and festoons and garlands ornamented the pillars and walls of the staircase, among them hanging banners of the different lodges and emblematic figures. The aspect presented by the great hall was most pleasing and effective, although here as well as in the rest of the building we believe the adornments were much less costly than at recent balls. The permanent decorations of the building have just been renewed throughout at the expense of the Executive Committee of the Hall, and consequently the Ball Committee were enabled to dispense with much of the drapery which is usually called into requisition. Flowers in abundance, evergreens, banners and masonic emblems very artistically arranged gave the room a most pleasing appearance, and immediately in front of the organ stood a magnificent structure which puzzled even many old masons learned in the mysteries of the craft. It was in the form of a knight's castle, with draw-bridge and everything complete, and with numerous mystic symbols on all side of it. We understand that it appertains to the Royal Order of Scotland, of which the guiding spirit in Shanghai is that most energetic and enthusiastic of masons, W. Bro. C. M. Donaldson. The little gallery, very prettily adorned, was devoted to the band, and this was a disappointment to many ladies and gentlemen who had at previous balls been wont to make occasional trips to the upper regions, to overlook and criticise their friends dancing below. The small lodge-room was devoted to the consumption of light refreshments, and was very elegantly furnished for the occasion. The members of the Masonic Club gave up their rooms for the night, and hero gentlemen when not dancing diverted themselves by playing cards, smoking, chatting and refreshing themselves. The guests began to arrive at about nine o'clock, being received by the stewards in gorgeous regalia, in most cases that of the Grand Lodge of Northern China. The room rapidly filled, and by about the third dance the floor became somewhat over crowded, though not to any serious extent. The great strength of the craft in North-China was soon made apparent by the numbers of gentlemen in the brilliant regalia of the various lodges and orders in Shanghai, interspersed with a few from Yokohama and other Eastern ports. The Royal Arch was abundantly represented, and later in the evening, when the Knights Templars donned their long white robes adorned with the Maltese cross they made a most imposing show. The ladies for the most part showed a preference for white in their ball dresses. Many of the costumes were, we need hardly say, exceedingly pretty, others particularly quaint, and blending with the bright hues of the aprons, sashes and jewels of the masons, English, Scotch, American and German, they produced a very brilliant spectacle. At about half past twelve, after a dozen dances, the Knights Templars arranged themselves on each side of the entrance of the hall and formed an Arch of Steel with their swords, under which the guests, headed by the District Grand Master, escorting Mrs. Hughes, wife of H.B.M.'s Consul, trooped to the tune of the Grand March from "Iolanthe" down to the supper room in the basement of the building. Some of the taller gentlemen appeared to be in imminent danger of losing portions of their scalps when the Templars occasionally relaxed their hold on their keen-edged weapons, but happily all passed through without accident. The supper room was very handsomely decorated with flags, and was brilliantly lighted by a design in gas-jets representing the familiar square and compasses. An excellent cold supper was well served, and dancing was kept up with spirit till nearly four o'clock.

The following is the programme of dances, the music being rendered by the Town Band, under the direction of M. Vela :—

- March, Home Again Newton.
- 1.—Quadrille, Les Brigands Strauss.
 - 2.—Waltz, Myosotis C. Lovthian.
 - 3.—Schottische, Improvisatoire. —
 - 4.—Lancers, Original —
 - 5.—Galop, Prestissimo Wadteufel.
 - 6.—Polka, Bonne Bouche Do.
 - 7.—Waltz, Entre Hongkong et Shanghai M. Vela.
 - 8.—Mazurka, Am Neckarstrasse Strauss.
 - 9.—Waltz, The Southern Breeze Meissler.
 - 10.—Highland Schottische —
 - 11.—Lancers, M. Patrie M. Vela.
 - 12.—Wa'tz, My Queen Coote.
- Grand March from Iolanthe Sullivan.
- 13.—Waltz, Schlummerlie Coote.
 - 14.—Polka, Rip Van Winkle D'Albert.
 - 15.—Quadrille, La Pêcheuse Ar-ranged by Coote.
 - 16.—Waltz, Je t'aime Wadteufel.
 - 17.—Mazurka, Zitaulla —
 - 18.—Waltz, Ma Charmante Wadteufel.
 - 19.—Galop, Hit and Miss Hervé.
 - 20.—Waltz, Brise des Nuits Lamothe.

Altogether there must have been about two hundred and fifty masons and guests present, of whom eighty or ninety were ladies. The number of subscribers was two hundred and twelve, and as on the whole it is expected that the expenses will prove to be lighter than on recent previous occasions it is confidently hoped that there will be a handsome margin of profit for presentation to the Masonic Charity Fund. The Committee is to be congratulated upon the unqualified success which they have achieved. Some of the dancers appeared to be occasionally a little dissatisfied with the playing of the band, and it would have been an improvement if supper could have been served at an earlier stage in the proceedings; but on the whole they must be few indeed who found the ball otherwise than most enjoyable.

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

The start was from near the Two-mile Bridge. The paper which was supposed to be laid by the Foxes, Messrs. Wintle and Arbuthnot, was conspicuous by its absence, and we had a rare good hunt for it for the space of an hour and a quarter; the wind, I am told by an eye-witness, took possession of it; as far as I can judge however, the course given, was followed by the hunt. Crossing the back Bubbling Well Road, we after considerable delay, landed on the Island, where we did a little mullarking; leaving this, Mr. Little on *Dalchymis* took the jump in the corner, euphroniously termed the Major's leap, in sensational style, the remainder of the riders got through to the best of their ability. Ample time for rest was given ere we were able to find our way on to Jessfield Road. From this point we gradually got to the Tunsin, then to the Fah-wah line, and both being well-known were quickly covered. Across the Sica-wei Road and over the Chasun we went next; seven ponies cleared this latter impediment almost simultaneously, in capital form. We then turned the corner to the right and shortly afterwards the once leading seven changed places with seven others, perhaps "slightly worse than the first." Mr. Perrott on *Kavacorum* led over the last jump, (*Black Auster's*), Mr. Taumeyer on *Picador* second, Mr. Harry (Maitland) on *Bones*, carrying off in great triumph the heavy weight prize, his stable companion close up.

One advantage therefore has accrued to the hunt; we shall, in all probability, have two additional scarlet coats.

LYNX.

Correspondence.

FIRE INSURANCE.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In your leading article of this morning the opinion is expressed that the excellence of the existing water supply to the Settlements renders it incumbent upon the Fire Insurance Companies to materially reduce their rates of premium. It has apparently escaped your notice that in May 1881 the English Tariff Offices in anticipation of the present state of affairs effected a large reduction in their charges for insurance against fire. The contents of first class buildings, for instance, which were previously rated at 1% less 20% discount, are now charged only $\frac{1}{2}$ % net; and other risks in proportion. The first general meeting of the Shanghai Waterworks' Company was held in London on 28th February, 1881, and there can be no doubt that the reduction in rates authorized by the Home Fire Offices in the following May was largely brought about by the prospect of shortly seeing in active work the excellent system of water supply which now exists.

Soliciting the favour of an insertion in your columns for these few lines,

We remain, Sir,

Your obedient servants,

RUSSELL & Co.,

Agents North British & Mercantile Insurance Co.

Shanghai, 16th Jan.

WATER ANALYSIS.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In thanking you for your courtesy in publishing my letter of the 15th inst., I beg to say I have just had placed in my hands a copy of an analysis of the Huangpu water made by Mr. Cleave. All Mr. Cleave's analyses which I have had an opportunity of seeing have been characterised by extreme carefulness and accuracy. He made the total solid residue of the Huangpu water 6.95 grains per gallon, a difference of 0.45 grains per gallon from my estimation of the solids. I have reason for thinking Mr. Cleave's estimation was a little too low. The analysis, which is very exhaustive, will be found at foot.

Although the quantity of organic matter a water contains affords no guide to its wholesomeness,—and to lay the chief stress on this ingredient irrespective of other considerations, is as unscientific as it is eminently misleading,—the amount of ammonia given by Messrs. Llewellyn in their "thorough examination" cannot be allowed to pass unnoticed. It is very singular, not to say improbable, that the Shanghai river water should give on analysis exactly the same proportions of ammonia and albuminoid ammonia, (viz: $\frac{1}{100}$ th of a milligramme of ammonia, and $\frac{1}{100}$ th of a milligramme of albuminoid ammonia in a litre) as the Thames water yields, estimated by Wanklyn and quoted in his "Water Analysis" fifth edition, page 68.

There is also another peculiarity about Messrs. Llewellyn's report. On page 151 of Wanklyn's book will be found an analysis of the water of the Nile. The total solids given in this water are 22 grains per gallon, and the hardness 10 degrees. I take it that Messrs. Llewellyn & Co., in some extraordinary manner, made the solids in their so-called analysis 23 grains per gallon; and finding in reference to Wanklyn that the water of the Nile most nearly corresponded to this, and it having a hardness of 10 degrees, concluded that the Huangpu water like the Nile must have a hardness of, or about, 10 degrees. They

could never have estimated it, for no amount of analytical blundering could account for such a difference as there is between 10 degrees and 2.2 degrees.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN HENRY WILSON.

Pharmacie de l'Union,
January 16th, 1884.

Mr. Cleave's analysis of the solid residue.

	Parts per million.
Carbonaceous matter	11.66
Lime	6.70
Magnesia	3.40
Soda	15.80
Alumina	6.80
Iron	44
Sulphuric anhydride	31.80
Chlorine	7.50
Silica	15.20
	99.30

N.B.—99.30=6.95 grains per gallon. The chlorine is too low, and there would be a loss of nitrates and a gain of carbonic acid which would partly balance this. The magnesia is also a little too low.

THE ICE QUESTION.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I write to you as being myself one of many who thoroughly agree with the remarks of your Correspondent "Consumer" in this morning's issue of the *North-China Daily News*.

I have constantly heard it regretted at the tiffin and dinner table that we seem destined to return to the *in statu quo ante* of impure ice during the tropical heat of our summer months. We heard a good deal about the Hongkong cesspools a few months ago, and a Correspondent has lately pointed out that the pools then under discussion are still in use for the washing of clothes and the breeding of skin diseases. Next summer (in five months' time) with the thermometer at 95°, we shall not dare the luxury of eating an ice, or of putting ice into our tumblers, because some one will be telling us (and with all likelihood of truth) that we should very probably be swallowing the water, and the slime, and the diseases, of those very cess-pools which have so often before been discussed as our Shanghai washing-tubs. Or else, a not unlikely contingency, there will be no ice, because there has been no frost: whilst, on the other hand, the last four summers having been tolerably cool ones, we shall not improbably get a regular teaser this year to show us that the Shanghai climate of to-day is very much the same as it was twenty years ago. Were the spirit of Shanghai like wise unchanged, there would have been no call for this letter: the Ice Company would have been a great success instead of a great failure: is it yet too late to benefit the public and the shareholders by restarting the Company and giving it another fair chance of paying its way?

Hoping that we shall soon hear of another meeting of the shareholders being called, or of some now proposition being brought forward other than the winding up of the Company,

I am, yours faithfully,

ANOTHER WOULD-BE CONSUMER.

Shanghai, 16th Jan.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Your doleful Correspondents "Consumer" and "Would-be Consumer" remind me of the story told of Horace Greeley. Horace was going along the street one day, when he came across a crowd gathered round some poor little girl who had dropped her stock of matches into the mud. The expressions of sorrow for her mishap were numerous among the by-standers, but

they took proper shape when Mr. Greeley stepped into the middle of the crowd, saying to one "How much are you sorry for?—I am sorry fifty cents,"—placing that sum in his own hat, and then, passing the hat round for the sympathy of all, soon had set up the little girl in business again. The moral is obvious. If "Consumer" and "Would-be Consumer" with all those who constantly regret that we are likely to have impure ice, only try, I daresay they can find shareholders of the old company generous enough to sell them as many shares as would give them considerable influence towards the formation of a new ice company.

Yours very truly,

17th Jan.

GRINGO.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—If the ice machine is a good one, if the cost is not excessive, and if the chemicals required for the freezing process can be obtained regularly, the community, I am sure, will be glad to take shares in a new company. But it will be best that some assurance should be given to quiet suspicion. There are rumours that the purchase was, for reasons given, not a satisfactory one to the first shareholders, and I believe reclamations were made, but whether upon the agent or the patentee I know not. If explanations can be given or an assurance that there is nothing wrong in the history of the affair the shares will be subscribed for, but we do not want a thing that was "managed by a job."

In Hongkong the finest and hardest ice is sold at a good profit at 1 Mex. cent per pound, but the machine, which works to perfection, needs no chemicals. The freezing is done by the expansion of compressed air.

Your obedient servant,

Shanghai, 17th Jan.

X.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In a leaderette in this morning's paper you ask, Is the ice machine fully available for ice-manufacture?

In answer we beg to refer you to the advertisement of the Ice Association which has appeared in your paper for the past month. The description there given of the six-ton Beckwith machine is quite correct, and we may add that a native engineer (who was thoroughly instructed in his duties by the foreigner who erected the machine) has run it without the slightest trouble. There is no difficulty experienced in obtaining supplies of the chemicals needed; any steamer will carry it. The cost of producing ice does not exceed \$10 per ton, which is we believe as low as any machine will produce it. Similar machines are working with good results in Japan.

We are, Sir, yours faithfully,

MACKENZIE & Co.,

Secretaries, Shanghai Ice Association.

18th January.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—So far no ice has been collected for the coming summer, and we may have to depend on supplies brought at a great cost from Tientsin. We may not even be able to get the skimmings of the dirty ponds that are in the fields around Shanghai; stuff that is always vile and poisonous, but still serves to cool things that are kept from actual contact with the frozen muck.

The community would do well in future not to depend upon the produce of the pools, as a large ice-making machine, which would from pure water produce pure ice, could be set up at no great cost, and could, no doubt, produce as much ice as the community would consume at a price of 1 cent of a dollar per pound. Now at

this price both Hongkong and Singapore are supplied with beautiful ice, and the cost in Shanghai would be no greater.

I am not in favor of having anything to do with the ice machine which for the misfortune of the deluded and ill-treated shareholders was bought in America some few years since. That machine depends on the supply of chemicals, is notoriously difficult to work, produces but little ice and at a dear rate, and has been altogether a most ill advised, costly, and unfortunate investment. Without referring to the various scandals in circulation about alleged over-charges, on the truth of which I offer no opinion, I am sure that as an ice machine is wanted we had better get a new and proper one, and should most carefully avoid the machine which has such a sad history of folly and greed.

A company could be quickly formed on a secure basis, and the shareholders would do well to copy the machine which by all accounts works so well in Hongkong.

Your truly,

MENTOR.

18th Jan.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—That we do want pure ice and cheap too, is beyond question, but we shall not accomplish this end by saddling somebody with the old machine.

The failure of the Ice Company is attributable to various reasons, which are too well known to need discussion here, though I wish to be allowed to point out that the main one, in my opinion, is that no serious or careful enquiries were ever made by those concerned about really good ice-producing machines. Had this been done, the Committee of the Ice Association would have secured a machine capable of producing ice that could compete with the native article as regards price, to say nothing of its purity.

In New York, machine ice can be made to yield a profit, notwithstanding both the cheapness and excellent quality of natural ice there. In Batavia the ice machine is a boon to consumers and a source of profit to producer. The Swiss firm, Raoul Pictet & Co., will deliver in any part of the world and put in thorough working order, really good machines producing ice at a very low cost and in quantities varying from 700 lbs. to 40 tons per 24 hours according to size of machine, and at prices ranging from Tls. 1,500 for the smallest ones up to Tls. 25,000 for those of largest dimensions. These machines are guaranteed as regards working order, and the quantity of ice they will turn out both by Messrs. Raoul Pictet & Co. and the makers, the Fives Lilles Co. The smaller machines can turn out ice at a cost price of Tls. 2.30 and the larger ones at Tls. 1.16 per ton. This leaves, I believe, a fair margin for competition with Chinese sellers, who cannot get their ice collected and stored for less than \$3 per ton, even during the coldest winter.

Apologizing for intruding at such length in your valuable paper,

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

QUERE HINVENIES.

22nd Jan.

STOREKEEPERS AND THEIR CUSTOMERS.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I enclose for publication, if you think fit, a note received this morning, as a warning to ladies against giving gratuitous advice. In all good faith I warned a firm of storekeepers in Shanghai that the goods sent to me on approval would not enhance their reputation. Of their reply I leave you to judge.

Yours truly,

OUTPORT.

Ningpo, 17th Jan.

The letter referred to is as follows:—

MADAM,—We tender you our best thanks for your advice on the Boot and Shoe Trade, at the same time we think you know very little about it, when you say the Boots sent you were Shanghai made they being made by one of the largest Makers in the World Messrs. Dawson and Son.

Whether the Boots are a Credit to a Store-keeper or not, we consider ourselves the best judges, and shall not consult you on the matter.

If the Boots did not suit you, you had the option of returning them without any remarks of a depreciating nature.

Yours Truly,

* * *

Shanghai, 16th Jan.

THE CESSPOOL SCANDAL.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Your columns have several times called attention of the Municipal Council, and the public also to certain filthy sewage pools on the Hongkew side, in which pools much of the laundrywork of the Settlements is carried on.

Apparently no one heeds the warnings that have been addressed to a too careless public, as I can say that to-day the washermen were working hard, and that they evidently have a very large business. To stop the odious business is, however, a clear duty of the Municipal Council, and if I understand a recent note of yours aright, to the effect that vested interests in the abominations are protected by a member or members of the Council, the time has come for asking for some statement from the Council to explain the astonishing, and altogether shameful inaction of the constituted authorities in the matter.

The Municipal Council, as is right and just, does many things *pro bono publico*. Diseased cattle are not allowed to be killed for meat supply; water is tested that its purity may be assured; the quality of gas is a matter within the scope of Municipal acts; market accommodation will soon be provided, because the exposure of fish, fruit, vegetables, etc. in dirty streets was offensive and unwholesome; the sanitation of the Settlement provided for; the shores, piers, streets, trees, etc. are cared for, and many other things are done by the Council for the health and comfort of the place. It cannot therefore, be alleged that if Chinese washermen souce our clothing in liquid manure the Council has not power or right to interfere in the public behoof to suppress a trade so horribly disgusting, so noxious, and—as we will find—deadly. Vested interests must be disregarded, and if any landowner stands up for the defence of the filthy washermen of Hongkew, the public will be glad to know his name, his position, and the excuses he can offer for not suppressing a most foul and pernicious trade.

Your obedient servant,

17th Jan.

A. B.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I have read with surprise and disgust the various letters that have appeared in your paper upon the pools of liquid manure on the Hongkew settlement that are used by Chinese washermen for laundry work. In no place in the world, I think, would such a monstrous and abominable abuse be tolerated, and I can scarcely think that the members of the Council, protectors of vested interests as they may be, can be aware of the real nature of the shocking and pestilent business that so far has been carried on with impunity.

From enquiries I have made, as I have urgent reasons for desiring that my body liuen be not saturated in ordure, I find that two members of the Municipal Coun-

cil, and a gentleman of the Parsee persuasion, are reputed owners of the cesspools to which you have called attention.

The two members of the Council have no shame, and will come to trouble, as their names are known, and execration will be heaped on them. The Parsee gentleman probably is more delicate, and, as he reads your paper, I appeal to him to act rightly as befits a disciple of Zoroaster, one of whose tenets is that of Manu, and almost word for word with the scriptural phrase that cleanliness is next to godliness. With the two Christians, or reputed Christians, I will deal at the right time, as they will find to their cost and shame. But I hope the Parsee will show he is a good man, and get rid, as far as he can, of a most grievous, intolerable, beastly, and dangerous abuse.

Your obedient servant,

ALPHA.

18th Jan.

** We publish this letter with all reserve, having no knowledge of the facts referred to by our Correspondent respecting the gentlemen in question. We presume, of course, that "Alpha" is in a position to substantiate his charges.—Ed.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The cesspool mania has insidiously got hold of Mr. Alpha *currente calamo* and with its potential lancet tries to open his mazes of the brain. But owing to the discrepancy between the vital powers of those mazes he presumptuously cries out wine but sells vinegar. I must say, before I get into depth of what I want to say, that I do not wish to touch the *amour propre* of Mr. Alpha, who proves really to be the first letter only and tumbles headlong into an abrupt when he approaches the next one. I am not any way concerned in the matter nor incited on behalf of it.

Indeed, those stagnant pools are altogether hated, nay, execrated.

It is often the case with an hypochondriac or a man whose spleen is always under flames, to speak extemporaneously and rashly. The fervour of passion blinds his eyes and mesmerizes his senses. Enthusiasm spoils the work, while patience carries it out safely and soundly.

If any man of discretion sits for a while and brings the concatenation of ideas to play he might see in this, let me say, scandalous matter, the fault of nobody; not that of the Council, nor that of the landrenters. The mischief which such a stroke of pen as "no shame" does is far more abominable than the practice of washing clothes in the cesspools.

I request Mr. Alpha to read the famous Spanish proverb "*Puerta abierta, al santo tiento*." The open door tempts the saint." Is it possible for the owners of those cesspools when they have an opportunity of turning money out of such pieces of land covered with water to deny to covenant with those Chinese washermen?

The sure and the safest way which now remains for the foreigners is not to give clothes to such washermen in whom they do not confide or to drag any one of them into the Court of Law on a legal plea of poisoning foreigners intentionally by means of such noxious cesspools.

"The cesspool scandal," as it is called, is very much exaggerated according to the proverb, "The mountain laboured and a mouse was brought forth." If the clothes in the first place are not given to such men, they will not go to enter into black and white with the owners of those cesspools. Thus the matter will be stopped without any agitating step or altercation of words. Those who at present give their clothes to a trustworthy man are free from the dermal disease.

If those cesspools are left as they are without making any use of them, they are sure to create greater mischief than what they do at present by putrefying the moss

and the weed, with which they are sure to be covered. Mr. Alpha might be knowing the argument of the gifted editor of this paper that a fire among the Chinese instead of creating great havoc pours down ethereal beatitude by killing the germs of the pestilential matters and thus nipping the dangerous epidemic in the bud.

Is it feasible for the ratepayers if they are tired of such a nuisance to demand the explanation from the Council for its dumbness because the members are concerned?

Mr. Alpha calls the Zoroastrians, *alias* the Parsees, delicate. Delicate in what sense? Mentally or physically? Hoping he will show some other amiable plans for the matter in question and thereby declare himself *obdurate*,

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
A ZOROASTRIAN.

Shanghai, 20th January, 1884.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I cannot hope to be on an equality with "A Zoroastrian," whose language is beautiful and learning profound. But, as a plain man, I can put a single issue before you and the public. It is, that the pools on the Chapoo Road now frequented by Chinese washermen for laundry purposes are scandalous, offensive, and dangerous to the community of this settlement, and that though individual action would be useless, and even illegal, the corporate action of the Municipality would be feasible, legitimate, and is necessary. The pools would disgrace Dahomey, and it is with astonishment that I find some Europeans willing to endure a most abominable, deadly and yet preventible evil.

The pools ought to be closed against washermen, and the Council ought to take the necessary steps to drive them away.

Your obedient servant,

ALPHA.

22nd January.

This correspondence may fitly cease here.—Ed.

THE SILK CROPS.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

MONSIEUR,—Sans vouloir entrer dans une polémique au sujet des deux opinions que la diminution des récoltes en Chine tient, soit au mauvais temps, soit au développement de la maladie, je me permettrai de relever quelques faits énoncés dans votre article d'hier qui me paraissent discutables.

Vous paraîseriez supposer que la méthode de M. Pasteur consiste à examiner toutes les graines à l'aide du microscope, et à séparer les bonnes des mauvaises. Ce procédé n'est pas pratique, parce que pour trouver les corpuscules dans l'œuf, il faut écraser d'abord celui-ci, et qu'il se trouve par ce fait hors d'état de donner naissance à un ver. Quand bien même, on pourrait découvrir les corpuscules sans ouvrir l'œuf, le procédé serait encore impraticable par la raison qu'une once de graine comprend de 35,000 à 53,000 œufs suivant les races, ce qui rend un travail de sélection de cette sorte à peu près impossible dans la pratique.

Avant les études de M. Pasteur, les savants Italiens, et en particulier Vittadini et Cornalia, recommandaient d'examiner à l'aide du microscope un certain nombre d'œufs parmi les lots de graines qu'on avait à sa disposition et de rejeter les lots où la proportion des œufs corpusculeux était plus ou moins considérable. Mais ce procédé ne présentait qu'une garantie insuffisante, parce que les corpuscules sont toujours en très petit nombre dans l'œuf surtout dans les temps les plus rapprochés de la ponte, et ne se développent dans celui-ci qu'au moment de sa mise en incubation.

De plus d'après les études subséquentes de M. Pasteur, il a été prouvé que la

présence d'un seul corpuscule dans un œuf suffit pour que le ver qui en naîtra ne puisse arriver à faire son cocon. Or il est à peu près matériellement impossible de découvrir un seul corpuscule isolé dans un œuf. Le procédé n'est donc valable que pour les lots de graines très malades, et où les œufs sont déjà très corpusculeux et on lui a toujours préféré le système des éducations précoces, consistant à faire éclore artificiellement, et à élever à l'aide de feuilles de mûrier récoltées dans des serres, en Janvier ou Février, de petits échantillons des lots de graines que l'on voulait essayer.

Le procédé de M. Pasteur généralement adopté aujourd'hui consiste à rechercher la maladie dans les papillons producteurs.

Le plus grande partie des éducateurs en France et en Italie font aujourd'hui eux-mêmes leur provision de graines par ce procédé, qui, bien que demandant certaines précautions, est en réalité d'une exécution assez facile dans la pratique.

Quant à l'opinion généralement admise par les Chinois que l'état climatique doit être rendu responsable des mauvaises récoltes, je la crois au moins exagérée et trop exclusive. Il est certain que le mauvais temps nuit aux récoltes, mais je pense qu'il faut chercher ailleurs pour trouver la raison de la progression si rapidement décroissante des récoltes dans les dernières années, et mon opinion est que la vraie cause est dans le développement des maladies, à la suite de l'augmentation croissante des éducations. Cela ne veut pas dire que toutes les graines aient été absolument mauvaises. Certains lots de graines choisies, envoyés en Europe peuvent avoir donné de bons résultats partiels, et le fait même que de bon résultats partiels ont été obtenus cette année dernière en Chine prouverait que le mauvais temps n'a pas été seul à blâmer, et que les éducateurs qui ont décliné ont souffert par d'autres causes. Il est avéré, non seulement par les chiffres de l'exportation, mais par les plaintes des sériciculteurs Chinois, que les récoltes vont en décroissant, malgré le développement des plantations de mûriers, malgré l'augmentation des quantités de graines mises à l'éclosion.

Les cocons récoltés sont en général de moins en moins bons, et donnent de moins bons rendements en soie. Ce qui n'empêche pas, encore une fois, qu'on peut constater au milieu de tous ces mauvais résultats, comme cela a été du reste le cas en Europe dans les plus mauvaises années — d'excellentes réussites partielles; et un acheteur intelligent et avisé peut réussir à faire un bon choix de cocons. L'exception ne prouve rien quant au résultat général. Les mauvais rendements des cocons a été constaté déjà en Europe pour les cocons percés de Chine qui donnaient il y a trois ans un rendement de 82 à 84 %; qui n'ont donné que 72 à 76 en 1882, et 62 à 64 % en 1883.

On ne peut pas admettre non plus que la diminution de la quantité de soie arrivant sur le marché de Shanghai sont due à la faiblesse des prix actuels. Les cours ont été à Shanghai dans ces dernières années, largement à la hauteur de la moyenne des dix dernières années (en exceptant bien entendu l'échauffourée de 1876 qui n'a pas eu de durée.)

En 1876 on avait vu les Elephants Bleu à 305, ce qui n'empêcha par les Chinois d'être en mesure cette année là de nous donner 80,000 balles.

Au printemps de 1879 les prix des 4es Tantes étaient de 360 à 370; la récolte de 1879 donnait 70,000 balles. En Juin 1879, les prix débutaient il est vrai à 445 (cela ne pouvait influer sur le chiffre de la récolte qui était déjà acquis) mais rebatonnaient bien vite à 400, et 380, et la saison finissait au printemps 1880 à 365/370.

Cependant la récolte de 1880 nous donnait plus de 85,000 balles la plus grande récolte de Chine, et les cours débutaient à 357½ pour descendre en Novembre à 327½, et remonter à la fin de la saison à 370.

La saison 1881/1882 a donné 61,000 balles (dont 52,000 balles exportées), et les prix variaient de 370 à 420.

La saison 1882/1883 a donné 56,000 balles (dont 52,000 balles exportées), et les prix ont varié entre 370 et 395 pour 454 Tsatlees.

La saison présente nous donnera à peine 32,000 balles (en déduisant bien entendu les 15,000 balles de vieux stock) et nos prix ont débuté à 410 et ont atteint même 455. Ils sont encore aujourd'hui à 385/390.

Ces prix contrastent singulièrement avec ceux de 300/305 en 1876 et 327½/330 en 1880.

Il est hors de doute que les éducateurs Chinois font leurs efforts pour nous fournir la plus grande quantité possible de soies, et cela est prouvé non seulement par le développement croissant des plantations de mûriers, mais aussi par les quantités de graines mises à l'éclosion, qui ont été telles dans ces dernières années, qu'à plusieurs reprises on nous a prédit à Shanghai au commencement des éducations des récoltes considérables mais ces prévisions ont été malheureusement démenties par les faits. Ces déceptions ont été attribuées au mauvais temps, mais mon opinion, basée sur des observations attentives, et sur les études sérieuses que j'ai faites de la question, me portent à admettre que le mal vient surtout du développement des maladies, qui, de même qu'en Europe, sont multiples, et ne se réduisent pas simplement à la Pébrine. Les éducations en Chine, souffrent aussi dans une grande mesure de la Flacherie et de la Muscardine, et je crois que c'est en combattant intelligemment ces maladies qu'on arrivera à relever l'importance des récoltes, plutôt qu'en se confiant nonchalamment aux influences atmosphériques.

Il est possible qu'avec certaines précautions, les éducateurs Chinois aient réussi jusqu'ici à combattre dans une certaine mesure l'influence néfaste de ces maladies, mais je ne crois pas que les moyens qu'ils aient employés, soient suffisants pour les écarter complètement, et je crois aussi que c'est plutôt à la multiplication des éducations qu'il faut attribuer l'abondance relative des récoltes précédentes, qu'aux soins plus ou moins bien entendus des Educateurs.

Recevez, Monsieur l'Editeur,
l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués,
PAUL BRUNAT.
Shanghai, 18 Janvier, 1884.

THE SANITATION OF HOUSES.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In your leader of the 16th instant you give a detailed account of the benefits to be derived from a constant and pure supply of water to the Settlement. Agreeing with you that the benefits are innumerable, yet at the same time I am of opinion that you over-estimate the advantages to be derived when you inform the public that they may rest assured of the future salubrity of the Settlement. There are other things in addition to the supply of pure water necessary to render a town healthy. One of the first requirements is good sanitation, which has been very much neglected in Shanghai, more especially in connection with the house-drainage. Of about two hundred houses in the Settlement in which I have noticed the system on which the sanitary work is carried out, I may safely say there is not one where the drains, with the accompanying waste-pipes from baths, sinks, etc., where it is not systematically wrong and a source of danger to the occupants.

I am not aware if the Municipal authorities have any control over private dwelling-houses; if so, it is quite time they effected some sanitary improvements. What is necessary is that some competent person be appointed as Sanitary Inspector. His duty should be to inspect the sanitary arrangements of every house in the Settle-

ments, and where found defective to report thereon to the authorities, so that they might enforce what alterations were necessary to ensure the health of the public.

To show you the necessity there is of a Public Sanitary Inspector, I here give you a case in point. A gentleman taking a large house in the Settlement that had been standing empty for some time was having it thoroughly cleaned out, disinfected and painted, to render the place healthy, as some time before several cases of typhoid fever had occurred there. Whilst going over the house, my opinion was asked, if I thought there was any further danger to be apprehended from fever, after so many precautions had been taken. Inquired if the drains had been inspected; if not, I would examine them for him, which I proceeded to do, when I found them in the most defective condition. The most flagrant defect which I met with was the waste-pipes from several baths being carried down from the first floor and connected directly with the main drains, thereby opening up a direct communication for the return of sewer gas to the bedroom floor of the house. There were also several other minor defects. I may say that the gentleman, after placing his face in close proximity to the waste pipes, came to the conclusion that the smell was bad enough to poison the whole household. The above is one case in many, and I think it sufficient to prove the necessity of some supervision being exercised over those who have the erection of dwelling-houses in their hands, and allow such work to be passed.

I remain, yours faithfully,

SANTAS.

21st January.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 21st January.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Assistant Judge.

RICHARD SCHOFIELD, executor to the estate of the late George Harrison, was summoned by Captain J. Brown to answer a claim of Tls.50 alleged to have been lent by the plaintiff to the said George Harrison, together with interest for 5½ months.

The Defendant denied indebtedness, and alleged that the Tls.50 alleged to was paid by the plaintiff to Mr. Harrison in consideration of the latter having obtained for him the pilotage of a Russian war vessel.

The Plaintiff said he had lent Tls.50 to Mr. Harrison on the 22nd June last. He produced two letters in Mr. Harrison's handwriting in which the payment of Tls.50 was referred to; the letters did not, however, state whether the sum was a loan or a payment for services rendered. He denied that he paid the money for services rendered by the deceased, and said that the pilotage of the Russian steamer in question had been obtained for him not by Mr. Harrison but by Mr. McCappin, pilot.

FRANCIS CANTER, Master Mariner, said he remembered McCappin coming to him and saying "I wish I could find Brown; I want him to take out that Russian steamer. I can't take it out myself because I have got another engagement, and I want to get the job for him." Witness believed that McCappin afterwards met Captain Brown at Harrison's, and gave him the job.

The Plaintiff said he was unable to call Mr. McCappin as a witness, as he was away from Shanghai and would not be back for eight days.

A-LING was then called as a witness for the defence. He said he was formerly in the employ of Mr. Harrison, and he remembered McCappin coming into Harrison's shop and saying that a Russian

steamer wanted to go to Hankow, and he wanted a pilot for her. Mr. Harrison then sent witness with a note for Captain Brown; but he could not find him, and when he returned to the shop Mr. Brown and Mr. McCappin were both there. Subsequently witness went to Captain Brown to collect a small account due to Mr. Harrison, and Captain Brown said he had only got Tls.250 out of the job, and he was very sorry to have had to pay 20 per cent. of it to Harrison.

The Plaintiff asked the witness if he (plaintiff) did not say that he was taking out the Tls.50 which Harrison owed him in stores.

The witness denied this.

His HONOUR asked Mr. Schofield whether from what he knew of the deceased's affairs he believed Harrison needed to borrow Tls.50 at that time.

Mr. SCHOFIELD said he did not believe Harrison had any occasion to borrow that sum.

His LORDSHIP then said—I do not require to decide in this case whether, as a fact, you lent Harrison this money or not—whether it was a loan, according to your statement, or whether, according to the defendant's statement, it was a payment made by you in respect to some services he had rendered to you. I have not that to decide; but I am going to decide the case on this broad and simple ground—that if claims are made against persons who are dead there must be satisfactory evidence of the justness of the claim, beyond the mere statement of the person who makes the claim. In this case I have no evidence except your own. I do not say that your story is not true, but it is not evidence which it would be safe for a Court to act upon. When once a man is dead, any one can come forward and say so-and-so lent him Tls.50 or Tls.600, and to accept a mere statement of that kind would never do. That is why. I say that in this case, as in all other cases, there must be corroborative evidence of the claim. Now corroborative evidence of your claim I have none, except these letters, in which he writes "kindly send the Tls.50"; but that may mean either "the Tls.50 which you have to pay me for getting you the job," or "the Tls.50 which you promised to lend me." I have no reason to assume that one or the other is true—at least I do not require to say which is the more likely. It was your business to get from him an explicit acknowledgment of the loan and the interest which you were to receive upon it, and since you did not do that, now that he is dead I cannot assist you. If he were here and admitted the claim it would be simple enough; if he were here and did not admit it, then I should decide which version was true, and I should probably then say what I now say—that if you lend Tls.50 to a man you ought to get an acknowledgment for it. You have not got an acknowledgment, and I must decide against the man who has not got the proof which it was in his power to get; and I must assume against you that he would deny the claim, and certainly not against the defendant that he would admit it. You ought to have got an acknowledgment of the Tls.50.

PLAINTIFF—I did not know the poor man was going to die so soon, your Honour.

His HONOUR—Very well, that is the risk you ran. Judgment for the defendant.

THE LOSS OF THE "ALBAY." MARINE COURT OF ENQUIRY.

An inquiry into the loss of the S. S. *Albay* was held at the British Consulate, Swatow, on the 7th and 8th instant. Mr. George Phillips, the Consul, presided, and with him were Lieut. Roper, of the gunboat *Esq*; Captain Donaldson, of the

Glenavon, and Captain Peoples, of the *Nir-chwang*. The following was the finding of the Court:—

The Court is of opinion that the cause of the loss of the British steamship *Albay* of Hongkong, official No. 63,841, on the rocks of Tower Point near the entrance to the port of Swatow, on the night of the 24th December 1883, was due, in the first place, to the forward steering gear carrying away, the vessel then becoming unmanageable.

The Court is of opinion that as the ship was in such close proximity to the land, and as it was blowing hard, with the wind, tide and a heavy sea setting the vessel towards the shore, it was an error of judgment on the part of the master, Frederick Day Goddard, not to have at once let go an anchor, and, when, after he had done so, finding the ship dragging, he should have let go the other anchor sooner.

On full consideration of the evidence, the Court regrets that it finds itself compelled to suspend the Master's Certificate of Competency, No. 90 538, granted at London the 28th February, 1881, for the term of three months.

The Court considers that there is no blame attached to the officers, who faithfully carried out the Master's commands.

The death by drowning of Thomas Graham, the 3rd mate, and three Chinese passengers, appears to be due in a great measure to three of the boat's crew deserting their posts, and the Chinese passengers refusing to leave her when requested to do so.

The Court notices that the master and officers of the steamship *Albay*, after the stranding, considering the bad weather and the darkness of the night, did all that was possible for the safety of the passengers and crew.

The *Albay* is, we learn from Swatow, lying in the same position. Some Chinese have been engaged in removing the yards, and some of the lighter work on her decks. She had not much cargo in her when she was wrecked; what she had, being chiefly sugar and fruit, would be perishable.—*China Mail*.

Miscellaneous.

CHINESE NOTES.

The *Shên Pao* gives an interesting account of the Chinese conception of an army. In ancient times, all lands were held subject to military service, [井田出賦], and three quarters of the year were given to husbandry, with one to drill. This went on during the greater part of the 三代, that is, the Hsia, Shang, and Chou dynasties; or any until the time of the Ts'in dynasty. The usurper Wang Mang attempted to re-establish the system. The T'ang dynasty for a short period re-established much of the ancient system under the name of 府兵.

The present dynasty with slight modifications continues the Ming system, as regards the Chinese [non-Banner] troops. The 綠營 are in fact yeomanry: they are not supposed to leave their own province; they must have a settlement, [土著], and a genealogy, [親族], and bail, [結保]. Their position is highly respectable, and it is only by reason of the looseness engendered of long peace and idleness that they have got themselves the reproach of 好缺不

打釘好男不當兵. Mercenary soldiers, doing nothing out military duties are 勇: they receive more pay, but may not perform private and civilian duties: the 鄉勇 of Hu Nan, raised by Ts'eng Kwo-fan during the rebellion, were not

strictly 勇, but 團 or posse comitatus. He declined to make them serve out of their own province until affairs became desperate. At present 1/10 of the Yeomanry, [綠兵], of Ch'ekiang are disbanded fighting soldiers, [勇], or mercenaries drafted into the Yeomanry, owing to the difficulty experienced in otherwise getting rid of them. In other provinces, too, the yeomanry are often recruited with mercenaries, contrary to the original conception of the functions of each. Promotion from the yeomanry to a commission, [伍行出身], is a quite recognised thing, [正途], and more than half the officers in China have risen from the ranks. Thus there are in China three distinct classes of troops. The Imperial troops or 旗兵 may be compared to our garrisons in Jersey, Ireland, (formerly also Canada, &c.). The national troops, [綠], are almost exactly what the English army was before Charles the Second started a Household Brigade, which subsequently developed into a standing army. The 勇 are what the Swiss used to be,—soldiers of fortune, mercenaries.

It is perfectly correct to speak of Sir Harry Parkes as 巴君, which word 君 has simply the effect of the French M., and is applicable in a vague way to all, without distinction of rank, especially when the exact title is unknown, or, as is usually the case with foreigners, where there is no 號, or none known. The *China Mail* need not blame the Chinese press for this. The *Shên Pao* has shown an improvement of late, and speaks of both British and Japanese Ministers as 欽差: M. Tricon, however, is still 法使德理固, which is improper. The best way would be to call all Envoys, Ambassadors, and Ministers 星使, for the unqualified word 欽 may by Chinese be pardonably considered to have special reference to the Emperor. Even in Europe "Imperial" never strictly speaking referred to anything but the "Holy Roman Empire" until 1780-90.

Some extensive irrigation repairs are to be undertaken in Kuldja. It appears that there is a canal joining the Rivers Hash or Hoshi and Bilgin or Pilichin somewhere eastward of Ili: this canal irrigates 80 miles of territory.

The anti-extortion salary of Tls. 11,000 a year allotted to the Kiukiang Customs Superintendent is annually remitted to the 造辦處, probably because the Kiukiang *taotai* was not originally in charge. It also appears that this official remits or should remit to the same quarter the balance of the 三分平餘 fund, (about Tls. 9,400 annually) nearly all of which, however, is swallowed up in local expenses.

The term 四柱 means "debtor and creditor account" or "account current": that is balance to credit; receipts; expenditure; and balance in hand to debit.

The Hangchow Silk Commissioner's last general account shows a balance of Tls. 30,364, plus Tls. 19 balance of moneys in hand on account of the Canton Hopo, plus Tls. 8,175 special balances. It appears that the Treasurer of Ch'ekiang is Tls. 16,050 in arrear, and the Salt Lieutenant at Tientsin Tls. 3,750. Consequently the Commissioner has had to borrow from the

申餘 fund in order to pay off Tls. 14,571 for certain purchases made in 1876 and Tls. 2,470 in 1881 by his predecessors.

The troops of each Province have to be reviewed (under special order of the Emperor) in turns. The Governor or Viceroy is usually deputed. It is now the turn of Chih Li, Shan Si, Shen Si, Sz Ch'uan, and Kan Suh.

The term 外國人 is 2,000 years old. When Han Wu Ti was dying, his Hun statesman Miti (Mayers 267) said "I am a foreigner" [臣外國人] "and not as worthy as Ho Kiang" (Mayers 170).

A man who kills three lives in a family not only suffers lingering punishment, but forfeits half his estate to the bereaved family. Unless his brothers have divided with him, their share is involved too. Though a risk is thus run by those who do not divide, yet it is considered the best form not to divide as evidence of family harmony and repnte. There is well-known case of one 張公翼 who attracted the attention of one of the Emperors. He lived with hundreds of relatives on an estate which had been undivided for nine generations [九世同居]. This rare instance, however, only points the rule, which is division.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Hydaspes*, for Calcutta—Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Burns. For Singapore—Mr. C. D. Kerr. For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Leith and infant, Miss Schlichting, Messrs. H. Sihbald, C. W. Baird, E. Barmeister, B. M. Botelho, J. P. Xavier and servant, and Cheang.

Per str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mrs. Suza. For Yokohama—Lieut. Field, U.S.N., and Mr. Edm. M. Sang.

Per str. *Chinkiang*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Humphries, Messrs. H. Börner and Noronha.

Per str. *Yungning*, for Wenchow—Dr. Macgowan.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Sual*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Leach, and Capt. Hoar.

Per str. *Fooksang*, from Hongkong and Swatow—Messrs. Michie, Wildey and Rivington.

Per str. *Genkai Maru*, from Japan—Mrs. Rush and child, and Mr. J. Douglas; Mrs. Rush's servant, Mrs. Colla's servant.

Per str. *Chefoo*, from Chefoo—Mr. Thimm.

Per str. *Shanghai*, from Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Gen. Alcott.

Per str. *Ozus*, from Marseilles—Mr. Martins (Consul-General for Brazil), Mr. Pontes (Vice-Consul), Messrs. J. Martins, Brand, Riach, Tung King-sing, Chin Yuen-foo, Butler, Mandel, Wilk, Capt. Bolton, Mr. and Mrs. Noltin. From Singapore—Mr. Johnes. From Hongkong—Messrs. Zerner, Barg, Souza and Ching Fo Chai.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, from Hankow—Messrs. Comstock and Field.

Per str. *Ngankin*, from Hankow—Sir Richard Rennie, Hon. L. Greville, Snor Isodore Lieart and European servant, and Mr. Emery.

Per str. *Taku*, from Foochow—Mr. Morse. Per str. *Tamsui*, from Amoy—Mr. and Mrs. Burkhill.

Per str. *El Dorado*, from Swatow and Amoy—Messrs. T. Baird and A. E. Jones.

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD AND S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

OPIUM RETURN FOR THE WEEK ENDING 12th JANUARY, 1884.

IMPORTED	MALWA		PATNA.		BENARHS.		PERSIAN.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	1,352½	1,352.50	35	42.00	180	216	42	42.00
Returned from shore on board R. Vessels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Landed direct	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,352½	1,352.50	35	42.00	180	216	42	42.00
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	25½	25.50	110	132.00	78	93.00	2	2.00

Re-Exported from board Receiving Vessels:—

Description.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Total.
	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Cht. Wg. Pl.
Malwa	221½ 221.50	83 83.00	29½ 29.50	30 30.00	23 23.00	.. ..	.. ..	119 119.00	5 6.00	1 1.20	1 1.00	507 507.00
Patna	7 8.40	.. ..	.. ..	2 2.40	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	15 18.00
Benares	25 30.00	.. ..	.. ..	3 2.40	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	20 24.00	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	47 56.40
Persian .....	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	10 10.00	.. ..	10 10.00
Turkey .....	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Total..	253½ 259.90	83 83.00	29½ 29.50	34 34.80	23 23.00	.. ..	.. ..	144 149.00	1 1.20	10 10.00	1 1.00	579 591.40

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 22nd January, 1884.

PIECE GOODS.—At the close of the market on this day week inactivity was its distinguishing feature. The native traders were hankering of goods, but troubled in their minds, and hesitating in their action because of the advanced demands of holders. Soon after the opening for the present mail, however, their hesitancy gave place to decision, and, sellers unbending a little, business in plain Cotton staples recommenced, and has since continued, with the following results:—

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—About 65,000 pieces and 10,000 of 10-lbs.
White Shirtings.—8,000 pieces 64-reeds, 5,000 pieces 72-reeds, and 2,200 pieces low counts.
T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—15,000 a 20,000 pieces.
American Drills.—7,700 pieces.
American Sheetings.—6,000 pieces.

Moreover the aggregates would have been much larger had sellers responded more liberally to the overtures of buyers, many of whom were surprised and disappointed to find their improved offers declined.

Of course the proceedings have been almost wholly speculative. But, should the foreign importer be able to stick to his present rôle (and there is no reason apparent why he should abandon it, all the home advices and the news from the consuming districts being in his favour), the speculator will in all probability reap a rich harvest out of his recent sowing, and realising the fact that it is many a long day since he had hopes of a future so full of promise he is still a ready operator, and that too in the face of advancing prices.

We shall not write a market report for the outgoing English mail of next week. The natives will then be in the thick of their festivities and too much absorbed therein to be able to give their attentions much to business. Their New Year's day falls on the 23rd instant, and their preparations, settlements, &c. commence to-day.

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—The following few comparative quotations will suffice to shew the improvement that has been established in values during the past week, viz:—*Red Rhinoceros* £1.38/41, *Red Pheasant* £1.42½/44, *Wheat Ear* £1.46/47½, *Silver Castle* £1.48/49, *Tripod H.A.* £1.49/51½, *Dewhurst's Green Lion* £1.54/56, *Eagle* £1.57/59, *Double Feather* £1.61/63 and so on. The higher are the closing figures, and there are buyers at them, albeit the native New Year squaring of accounts has commenced. By the above we do not mean it to be understood that no other chops than these named have been dealt in, or that they alone have risen in value. On the contrary the range of buying has been very comprehensive and a corresponding improvement has characterised the whole.

In 6-lbs., 7-lbs. and 12-lbs. there has not been any business worth mentioning; but over 10,000 pieces of 9½ to 10-lbs. cloth have been settled on the basis of last week's currencies. The *Dewhurst's Eagle* which we quoted in our last as A should have been written W. **White Shirtings.**—64-reed.—The rates returned by the sales are £1.46 and £1.55 for C P H Green and *Red Lions*, £1.47½ for *Gorilla*, £1.55 for *Wild Boar Hunt*, £1.69 for *Red Man and Flag*, &c., 52-reed, £1.25 for *Black Stag Head*, and 72-reed, £1.90, £1.91 and £2.00 for good to fine qualities, the market for all closing steadily, although rather quietly.

T-Cloths.—A better tone has pervaded this department, and the volume of business has somewhat increased this week, but as yet there is no improvement in the general price list, excepting in the negative form of no decline. The week's sales shew the following values: *Sing Feather* £0.99, No. 2 *Warrior* £1.05, *Lion and Flag* S T £1.10, *Red Dragon* £1.11½ to £1.12½, *Hand and Branch* £1.18, *Green Beggar and Eye* £1.20, X X *Eagle* £1.24, *Blue Beggar* £1.26, and *Four Fung Wan* at £1.50 per piece.

To-day higher offers have been made for big lots of ordinary Mexican and refused.

Drills.—The transaction—7,200 pieces unlettered P M C American at £2.62½ per piece—is the only one worthy of record under this heading, and in

Sheetings there is likewise but one respectable sale to chronicle, viz., 6,000 pieces *Boott Cock, American*, at £2 60 per piece. **Jeans** continue neglected.

Fancy Cottons.—A large business in *Velvets* at from 0.14½ to £0.15½ per yard has been done this week. Indeed, if the records be correct, nearly half the stock has been bought up. The transactions amount to 4,300 pieces, and already one-sixth thereof has gone forward to JAPAN, whither, probably, the bulk of the settlements will soon follow, as the buying has been for that country principally. The HANKOW providers, however, have likewise been in the market. In the other descriptions of fancy cottons there has not been much doing. A couple of thousand more dozens of *Blue Handkerchiefs* have been taken at £0.41½ per doz.; 2,000 pieces *White Muslins* have found buyers at £0.55 per piece; about 1,100 pieces of 4lbs. a 4½lbs. *Turkey Red T-Cloths* have been settled at last mail's rates and 600 pieces 2½lbs. *Turkey Red Cambrics*, *Dragon* at £1.07½/11 are announced. Bombay spinnings of 16s. 20s. Yarn have continued in demand, but there are none in stock. Of *Blue Chintzes* a parcel of 600 pieces *Stag* is reported sold at £1.12½ per piece, and a few more *Centian Cotton Lastings* at £2.09 have changed hands. But for *Brocades*, *Damasks*, *Tweils*, *Muslins*, *Dyed Shirtings* &c., there has not been any enquiry.

Woolens.—The woolens markets have been quiet, and yet small sales of *Camlets*, *Scarlet Long Ells*, and *Black Lastings* at better prices have transpired. The values of *Spanish Stripes* also are steadier than they were last week and rather higher, and business in the import is possible; but it has been found very difficult to move *Mediums* or *Lustres*, there being no demand for either, and not likely to be until the markets in the North and beyond Hankow reopen after the holiday's.

Metals.—Mr. Biefield says in his Report:—Since the issue of my last, nothing of special interest has transpired; the majority of articles are dull and inactive at easy prices, the principal exception being aniline dyes, which have met with more attention. **LEAD.**—Has been very flat, the prevailing dullness being increased by the low rates at which forced sales by speculators have been made. Sales are:—250 tons L.B. at £3.27½ prompt; 100 tons L.B. at £3.25 prompt. **NAILROD IRON.**—Buyers confine their purchases to actual requirements and the market remains very quiet, but full rates have been paid for *Sohiers*, viz: £1.95 for 50 tons taken for Ningpo and £1.92½ for a similar parcel sold to a local dealer. **BAR IRON.**—Some 30 tons Belgian flat have been sold at £1.85. **PIG IRON.**—There has been nothing doing during the week, values however are fairly steady. **OLD IRON.**—A parcel of 40 tons horse shoes has been placed at £1.62½ to arrive, the market for other descriptions remains depressed throughout and without any sales to report. **TINPLATES.**—The stocks of decorated are increasing and sales of ordinary goods can only be made at a concession. 200 boxes plain have been sold at £4.00 net, to arrive. **STEEL.**—A better tone has prevailed since last issue and 1,000 boxes *Bamboo* have been placed at £3.10. **STRAITS TIN.**—There has been a very small business doing during the week at last quotations. **COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING.**—Is steady, but quiet, with small sales. **JAPAN COPPER.**—No stock. **IRON WIRE.**—Has remained quiet at quotations. **QUICKSILVER.**—Also quiet and unchanged.

Miscellaneous.—From A. Bielfeld's circular:—**MATCHES.**—Further sales of Vienna and paraffine are reported, but particulars have not transpired. **WINDOW GLASS.**—No sales reported. **NEEDLES.**—Business remains dull and unsatisfactory. 25 cases No. 1/5 and No. 1/10 silver eyed sharp in tins have been sold at \$75.00. **ANILINE DYES.**—A better business has been doing this week, and large quantities of Scarlet RRR in 8 oz tins and 10 oz. bottles have been booked, but prices have not transpired. Other sales reported include—20,000 bottles each 2 oz. crystal green, Eagle chop at \$0.22 to arrive; 2,000 bottles each 2 oz. crystal green, Lion chop at \$0.20; 8,000 bottles each 2 oz. crystal green, at \$0.24; 3,000 bottles each 2 oz. blue, at \$0.12; 1,000 bottles each 2 oz. magenta, 2 men chop at \$0.12; 5,000 bottles each 2 oz. scarlet RRR, 2 Horse at \$0.11.

Kerosene Oil.—The recent firm tone has given way to a dull state of things, and though holders have remained firm very little business has been done. Sales are about 8,000 cases Devoes at \$1.40 a \$1.41. Stocks about 370,000 cases.

Chinese Market.—The approach of the New Year has had the usual effect: in SUGAR business continues trifling at former rates. **PEPPER.**—A lower price is quoted for black, with little doing; white unchanged. **SANDALWOOD.**—Moderate sales at previous prices. **COTTON.**—Scarcely any business passing; prices as before. **FLINTS.**—Sales 100 picul.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—Purchases for the week amount to about 1,000 bales, a great part being Tsatlees, 116 bales re-reels and 280 bales Chefoo wild silk. The market has been firm, with prices rather advancing, which, with the rise in exchange, makes the price in Europe give a higher laying down cost to the mail's shipments. **Taysams** have not been enquired for as the price of native goods in the country makes them dear. The quotation for chop No. 40 is \$390 per picul. Stock—4,000 bales.

The following are a few of the settlements—Grasshopper at \$381; Kukee-chin-hock at \$380, Kuelung at \$365; Mon Shing at \$361; Choe-shing at \$350; Gold Kiling at \$353; Chi-ke-lung at \$340 per picul. Chefoo Wild at \$117½ to \$120 per picul.

Tea.—**BLACK.**—The last purchase of the season was made during the week, viz: 213 half-chests Oanfa a \$10½ per picul. **GREEN.**—The business has been small and comprises 1,870 half-chests and 1,342 boxes Pingueys at from \$12½ to \$13 per picul, and about 2,600 half-chests Country teas—Moyunes at \$21 a \$21, Fychows at \$19 a \$23½ and Teenkais at \$33½ per picul. Stock—Country tea 358 half-chests; Pinguey 575 chests and 2,625 boxes.

Exchange.—Owing to some of the exchange banks being desirous of getting into funds our market experienced a sharp rise two days ago, when transfers were offered and sold at 5s. 1½d., and four months' sight bank bills at 5s. 2½d., private paper advancing to 5s. 2½d. to 5s. 2½d. for four months' sight credit and documentary bills. Yesterday the banks lowered their rates ¼th per tael after selling a fair amount. The quotation for private paper remained unchanged. On France the rates closed at f. 6.62 for four months' private and documentary bills. Rupees are 309.

Shares.—Scarcely any transactions have been reported since last mail, the nearness of the Chinese New Year having interfered with business. Sales of Hongkong Bank shares were made to a small extent some days since for cash at 180 and 179 premium and exchange 72, and yesterday further sales were made at 181 for the end of April. The market is disorganized by fears of impending disaster among speculators here, and for the moment it is impossible to give trustworthy quotations. China Fire Insurance shares have been sold at \$72 and exchange 73.

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½-lbs.—Yuen-fong 17th instant—6,650 pieces, at \$1.15 for *Two Man*, \$1.19½/19½ for *House*, \$1.25½/26 and \$1.41½/41½ for *Blue and Painted Britannia*, \$1.41½ for *Red Fish and Dragon*, and \$1.52½/52½ for *Five Brothers*.

6-lbs.—1,000 pieces *Two Man* at \$0.90½/91 per piece.

7-lbs.—500 pieces *Blue Britannia* at \$1.10/10½ per piece.

9½-lbs. a 10½-lbs.—3,800 pieces, at (on 16th instant, *E-wo*), \$2.04½/05½ for *Blue Tea Caddy*; and (Yuen-fong), \$1.59½, \$1.80½/80½ & \$2.09½/12 for *Blue, Red and Painted Britannia*.

White Shirtings—2,700 pieces 64-reed (Yuen-fong) at \$1.46½/47½ for *Blue Castle*, and \$1.49½/49½ for *Blue Light-house*; and 2,580 pieces 72-reed at (*E-wo*) \$1.70½ for *Cock* 7,000, \$1.97½ for *O.*, \$2.20½ for *A.I.*, \$2.32½ for *M.O.*, and \$3.65½ for *E.F.*; and (Yuen-fong) \$1.85½/86 and \$1.85½/85½ for *Red Light-house*, dressed and undressed.

T. Cloths—2,000, pieces, 7-lbs.—*Blue and Painted Britannia* at \$0.96½/97 and \$1.07½/08½ per piece respectively.

Drills—510 pieces, *English—Double Britannia*, at \$1.88½/89½ per piece.

Turkey Reds—350 pieces *Mandarin*, at \$1.19½/19 for 2½-lbs., \$1.32 for 3-lbs., and \$1.36½ for 3½-lbs.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	*Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Sales Pcs.
E-wo, 16th instant.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Pcs.
Camlets, Horseman p.p.	8.75	.....	9.41	.....	\$ 56	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.77	.....
Sales, p.c.s....	20	.....	10	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	50
" G.D'gon F.F.	.....	\$ 90	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
" Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
" Gold Lion	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ 22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
" Red Lion	8.76/64	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ellis, H.D.B.p.c.	4.80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
S.S.p., H.D.B., p.y.d.	0.47½/47.2	.....	0.49.3	0.45.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.44½	.....	.....	.....	54
Sales, p.c.s....	24	.....	12	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	.....
YUEN-FONG, 16th inst.	9.25/27½	9.20/27½	9.70/90	.....	9.20/35	.....	.....	.....	8.80	.....	9.22½/30	9.47½/52½	.....
Camlets, S.S.G.p.c.e.	200	80	100	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	20	30	470
Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" G.G.p.p.c....	9.35/37½	9.37½/42½	9.95	.....	9.60/62½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.47½	9.55	.....
Sales, p.c.s....	120	60	70	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	20	300
Long Ellis, G.G., p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lastings, G.G., p.p.	.....	.....	8.20	.....	6.20	.....	.....	.....	8.10/17½	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	20	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	60	.....	.....	.....	100
S.Stripes, T.T.B.p.y.d.	0.47½/48	0.46½/46½	0.48½/49	0.48½	0.41	0.45½/46	0.47½	0.45½/46	.....	0.48	0.41½	.....	252
Sales, p.c.s....	132	24	60	6	3	3 & 3½	3	12	.....	3	3	.....	.....
Union Cloth, 2 Eagle 36in	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
KIN-MING, 22nd inst.	9.77/78	9.66	10.15/16	.....	9.80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.74/85	.....
Camlets, C.P.H.p.c.e.	20	20	30	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	120
Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Ram chop p.p.	9.38/39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
" Eagle, p.p.	9.30	8.93	9.91/90	.....	9.17/18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.37	.....
Sales, p.c.s....	30	20	20	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	100
" Goose, p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ellis, C.P.H.p.p.	4.86/87	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	120
Sales, p.c.s....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Lastings, C.P.H....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.94/9.00	.....	.....	.....	100
" Elephant	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.93/96	.....	.....	.....	100
" Eagle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.26/27	.....	.....	.....	60

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.*	QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.*
			Tls. m. c.				Tls. m. c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—				PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds			
5-lbs 39-in 38½-yds.....nom	pc.	0.8 3/4 to 0.9 5/8		50/52 ..	pc.	1.30 ..	1.70
7-lbs ..	pc.	0.9 5/8 ..	1.30	Special ..	pc.	2.70 ..	3.40
Dewhurst's Eagle ..	pc.	None ..				3.70 ..	
8½ to 8½-lbs ..	pc.	1.10 ..	1.65	TURKEY REDS—			
D. Eagle XX ..	pc.	1.59 ..	1.61	24-yd 1½ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom	pc.	0.85 ..	1.50
9 to 9½-lbs ..	nom	1.63 ..	1.95	Best ..	pc.	1.60 ..	1.80
9½ to 10-lbs ..	pc.	1.65 ..	2.20				
Dewhurst's, Best ..	pc.	2.16 ..	2.45	VELVETS—Black, 22-in.....nom			
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in..	pc.	2.00 ..	2.50	VELVETEENS—Black, 18-in ..	pc.	0.09 ..	0.13½
12-lbs American 36 in ..	pc.	2.40 ..	2.65	26-in ..	pc.	0.16 ..	0.17½
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				BLUE DENIMS			
40-yds 36-in 56-rd.....	pc.	1.20 ..	1.35	reem ..	pc.	0.03 ..	0.04
60-reed ..	pc.	1.30 ..	1.42½	DIMITIES—12-yd 37-in ..	pc.	0.90 ..	1.20
64 ..	pc.	1.40 ..	1.75	41-in ..	pc.	1.00 ..	1.34
64 .. Best and 66-reed ..	pc.	1.60 ..	1.85	MUSLINS—12-yd 42-in ..	pc.	0.52½ ..	0.62½
72 to 80-reed ..	pc.	1.70 ..	2.20	YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28/32 ..	pc.	67.00 ..	73.00
Best ..	pc.	2.25 ..	2.65	16/24, nom ..	pc.	59.00 ..	64.00
DRILLS, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs	pc.	2.40 ..	2.62½	CAMLETS—English, SS.....	pc.	8.50 ..	9.75
English, 14 to 15-lbs, nom	pc.	1.35 ..	1.92	GG ..	pc.	9.54 ..	
Good to Finest, nom ..	pc.	1.90 ..	2.43	SSG ..	pc.	9.37½ ..	
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs.....nom	pc.	1.60 ..	1.90	HDB ..	pc.	9.35 ..	
JEANS, Dh., 30-yd. 30-in 8½-lbs	pc.	1.55 ..	1.70	CPH ..	pc.	9.85½ ..	
English, 8 to 8½-lbs ..	pc.	1.05 ..	1.85	Dutch, 33 to 24-in nom.	pc.	15.00 ..	19.00
American .. Heaver.....	pc.	1.75 ..	2.00	Do. 37-in ..	pc.	16.50 ..	21.50
SHEETINGS—				MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ..			
Am., 40-yd. 36 to 38-in. 14-lbs.	pc.	2.45 ..	2.72½	SPANISH STRIPES ..	pc.	0.65 ..	1.10
Eng., 14 to 16-lbs ..	pc.	1.70 ..	2.40			0.35 ..	0.55
T. CLOTHS—						0.44½ ..	0.493
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom	pc.	0.80 ..	0.90			0.41 ..	0.48½
7-lbs ..	pc.	0.85 ..	0.90			0.50 ..	0.55
6-lbs Mexican.....	pc.	None ..				0.45½ ..	0.48½
7-lbs ..	pc.	0.90 ..	1.26			0.45 ..	0.48½
7-lbs Mexican Special chops	pc.	1.25 ..	1.65	LONG ELLS—			
8 to 8½-lbs ..	pc.	1.20 ..	1.60	Scarlet, 24-yd GG.....	pc.	4.99 ..	
Better kinds and XX ..	pc.	1.72½ ..	1.80			5.05 ..	5.15
HANDKERCHIEFS—						4.86 ..	4.87
Blue, 28 to 32-in ..	doz.	0.38 to 0.54				4.75 ..	4.77½
Brown ..	doz.	0.35 ..	0.40			4.80 ..	
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS—White.	pc.	1.80 ..	2.00			4.70 ..	
Dyed, nom ..	pc.	2.00 ..	2.30			4.50 ..	5.90
BROCADES—White, 40-yd ..	pc.	1.85 ..	2.00	Assorted, HH ..	pc.	nom. ..	
Dyed ..	pc.	2.25 ..	2.40			CGH ..	
DAMASKS—Dyed, 40-yd, nom	pc.	2.90 ..	3.75			GG ..	
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS ..	pc.	1.90 ..	2.20			UU ..	
CHINTZ—Assorted ..	pc.	1.10 ..	1.40				
Blue ..	pc.	0.90 ..	1.15	LASTINGS, 30-yd ..			
Brown ..	pc.	1.10 ..	1.20	CRAP LASTINGS, 30-yd nom	pc.	5.25 ..	9.30
Scarlet ..	pc.	1.25 ..	1.40	CRAP LUSTRES ..	pc.	2.50 ..	6.00
				PLAIN LUSTRES, Black.....	pc.	2.75 ..	3.40
				ORLEANS—Figured, 30-yd ..	pc.	2.25 ..	2.75
				Special Colors & Patterus	pc.	2.50 ..	3.30

* Haikwan Sycee Tls. 100=Shanghai Currency Tls. 111.40.

METALS.		QUOTATIONS.		SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.			T.m.c.	T.m.c.
JAPAN COPPER—Tiles, best ..	per picul	18.50	@ 19.00	SUGAR—			
Or ..	pc.	17.50	18.00	White, Swatow, No. 1 ..	per picul	4.90	@ 5.30
QUICKSILVER—American ..	pc.	43.00	43 50	" " " 2 ..	pc.	4.20	4.70
TIN PLATES—Parson's.....	per box	4.30	4.50	" " " 3 ..	pc.	3.50	4.00
STEEL.....	per tub			White, Canton, No. 1 ..	pc.	4.80	5.20
Bamboo ..	per picul	3.00	3.10	" " " 2 ..	pc.	4.10	4.60
TIN, Fong Hing ..	pc.	22.40		" " " 3 ..	pc.	3.40	3.90
Fok Chok ..	pc.	21.60		Brown, Swatow, Best.....	pc.	3.10	3.40
Chowkung, &c.	pc.	21.20		" " Common.....	pc.	2.70	3.00
FIG IRON ..	per ton	16.00	21.50	" Canton ..	pc.	3.00	3.30
IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 & 21 ..	nom. per picul	3.40	3.60	" Common.....	pc.	2.60	2.80
" " 14 & 25 ..	pc.	3.60	3.80	PEPPER—Black ..	pc.	12.00	13.00
" " 18 & 25 ..	pc.	3.80	4.00	White ..	pc.	16.00	17.00
IRON—Nail Rod—				BATTANS—Common ..	pc.	3.00	3.60
Dawes' Best ..	per picul	2.15	2.20	Good to fine ..	pc.		
H. Rogers, Sons & Co.	pc.	2.05	2.15	Best ..	pc.	4.00	5.00
Sohier ..	pc.	1.90	1.95	SAFAN WOOD—			
Belgian ..	pc.	1.90	1.95	3 pieces to the picul ..	per picul	1.80	2.60
English—Bar.....	pc.	1.70	2.00	6 & 7 ..	pc.	2.30	2.60
Belgian ..	pc.	1.40	1.80	SANDALWOOD, South Sea ..	pc.	3.00	3.30
LEAD—				Timor ..	pc.	5.50	8.50
L. B ..	pc.	3.25	3.27½	Malabar ..	pc.	13.00	19.00
French ..	pc.	3.35		WINDOW GLASS—			
German ..	pc.	3.30		Good assortment ..	per box	2.30	2.40
				KEROSENE—Devoe's ..	per case	1.40	1.42½
				FLINT STONES ..	pc.	0.42	0.46
				COTTON—Shanghai, best.....	per picul	11.40	11.80
				Compoek ..	pc.	11.20	11.60
				RICE—Shanghai ..	p. 150 cat.	2.50	2.70
				Chinkiang ..	pc.	2.10	2.30
				HIDES—Cow ..	per picul	13.00	

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per Str. "GORDON CASTLE," cleared 12th January, for NEW YORK.—Hides 108.73 piculs. Leather 79.35 piculs. Nutgalls 397.92 piculs. Rhubarb 91.57 piculs. Strawbraid 1,715.02 piculs. Wool—camels 67.16 piculs, sheep 346.47 piculs. Rugs—goatskin 20.

Per Str. "BENLARI," cleared 14th January, for LONDON.—Bristles 10.21 piculs. Hides 908.11 piculs. Nutgalls 279.70 piculs. Strawbraid 184.90 piculs. Wool—camels 715.83 piculs, sheep 31.27 piculs. Tasmanian ground bark 1,645.75 piculs. Rugs—goatskin 2,000, sheepskin 544.

Per Str. "HYDASPES," cleared 16th January for LONDON.—Feathers 126.55 piculs. Musk 0.11½ piculs. Strawbraid 765.60 piculs. Rugs—goatskin 130 piculs. Nutgalls 237.40 piculs. Musk 0.20½ piculs.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 21st January, 1884, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 13 to 17, both numbers inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.													
	Ningpo.	Wenslow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chafoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hingpo.	Yokohama.
Grey Shirtings †	1,850	250	6,940	...	2,710	14,100	850	...	...	600	1,400	...	1,100	250
T. Cloths	325	...	500	...	100	1,300	1,300	...	...	800	2,000	...	...	1,000
White Shirtings	230	50	710	...	350	4,050	...	...	...	100	160	...	...	...
Drills, English and Dutch	60	...	...	...	...	105	435	...	...	...	345	...	360	...
" American	...	...	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jeans, English and Dutch	40	...	...	...	...	...	262	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" American	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	...	...	30	...	...	750	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" American	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,140	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	150	90	...	...	50	...	...	...	50
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	60	...	50	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Printed Twills	...	...	240	...	...	160	...	...	...	160	...	...	...	275
Turkey Red Shirtings	...	...	384	...	...	50	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	50
Velvets	...	...	...	...	24	30	...	...	...	...	...	60	300	300
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	...	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...
Handkerchiefs	...	...	...	...	...	440	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Muslins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn	...	...	...	...	9	9	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes	44	6	36	...	42	6	42	...	...	90	...	...	...	24
Medium and Broad Cloths	6	...	...	...	...	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	18
Camlets	...	80	...	...	120	370	10	...	...	340	220	...	...	40
Long Ells	...	...	60	...	80	360	20	...	...	80	...	...	...	20
Lastings	20	20	...	...	40	720	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...
" Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians	140	...	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	30	...	...
Lustres, Plain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Figured	...	...	60	...	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
" Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	385	...	82	...	256	420	258	...	...	83	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	357	21	928	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

GOODS.	‡ TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, DATED 1ST JAN., 1884.	
	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jan. 1884.	Against last year same term.	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jan. 1884.	Against last year same term.	† At date Estimated.	Against 22ND Jan., 1883.
Grey Shirtings †	34,550	65,150	89,199	43,600	65,150	12,501	1,309,000	1,848,000
T. Cloths	8,600	15,885	23,030	11,140	23,140	550	770,600	520,800
White Shirtings	5,970	7,920	26,587	22,851	27,165	3,898	328,400	424,200
Drills, English and Dutch	1,335	2,495	1,200	900	1,410	...	130,500	364,700
" American	105	450	1,695	4,500	4,500	4,500	175,000	208,500
Jeans, English and Dutch	302	332	1,890	2,360	2,360	180	45,100	41,700
" American	140	530	3,320	3,320	3,320	...	33,000	2,000
Sheetings, English	780	1,406	4,689	2,710	5,190	700	74,400	114,100
" Am.	1,320	3,060	590	13,800	13,800	19,500	275,400	155,600
Dyed Shirtings	...	50	50	33	33	4,697	6,400	27,400
Bro. & Spot. Shts., White	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,033	600
" Dyed	340	1,030	280	650	650	570	4,200	21,100
Damasks, Dyed	...	40	...	...	...	...	5,950	7,150
Chintzes	445	1,065	2,440	2,914	3,711	2,043	23,500	39,600
Printed Twills	610	770	1,642	2,402	10,979	...	48,600	54,100
Turkey Red Shirtings	584	1,634	1,733	7,310	7,310	850	105,200	109,800
Velvets	714	984	606	...	510	...	8,600	17,500
Velveteens	100	100	288	330	330	...	1,530	5,300
Handkerchiefs	640	1,520	4,640	1,500	3,755	1,016	98,700	160,600
Muslins	200	200	1,260	1,000	2,096	983	10,700	25,300
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,870	1,200
Cotton Yarn	33	144	441	297	297	396	9,500	5,120
Spanish Stripes	290	428	1,040	744	1,056	6	14,900	15,300
Medium and Broad Cloths	82	146	622	...	...	1,136	19,900	25,400
Camlets	1,180	1,550	3,020	1,850	4,380	400	23,150	38,600
Long Ells	620	820	2,540	1,200	1,400	...	22,700	38,600
Lastings	840	930	2,270	680	2,700	300	26,300	26,700
" Crape	...	20	40	...	...	...	2,460	2,300
Cotton Lastings & Italians	330	1,420	1,163	5,606	7,447	1,690	56,900	50,700
Lustres, Plain	...	...	100	...	...	...	600	2,350
" Figured	230	540	1,654	200	1,360	700	34,800	45,300
" Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	1,250
Lead in Pigs	1,484	2,523	1,181	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	1,356	1,524	2,417	1,680	1,680	...	...	...

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex *Oxus*, *Cyclops*, and *Taisang*.

Import Cargo declared *Djemnah*, *Anchises*, *Teucer*, *Stephan*, and *Brindisi*.

† Including *English* and *Dutch* 12-lbs.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

23RD JANUARY, 1884.

VESSELS LOADING FOR FOREIGN PORTS.—For London via Suez Canal—s.s. *Hector*; for London via Suez Canal, calling at Hongkong—s.s. *Mark Lane*

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 5s. 1½d. a 5s. 1½d.; Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 5s. 2½d. a 5s. 2½d.; First-class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 5s. 2½d., 6 months' sight, 5s. 3½d.; Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 5s. 2½d., 6 months' sight, 5s. 3½d. On France—Bank, Bills, demand, Fcs. 6.45, Credits and Documentary, 4 months' 6.62; 6 months' sight, 6.65. On New York—Credit and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 75. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 27½; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 28½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers Rs. 309; Calcutta, Rs. 309. Bullion—Gold Bar, Pekin, 98 touch, Tls. 195.00. Silver Bars, Tls. 111.18. Mexican Dollars, Tls. 72 30. Carolus Dollars, Tls. 77.00. Copper Cash, 1,490.

S H A R E S.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The business for this last week has been very limited. On the 17th shares were placed for cash at 179% ex. 72, and on the 18th a small lot changed hands at 180% ex. 72. The market in Hongkong continuing to drop, a sale from that port was made yesterday for delivery on 30th April at 181%. A favourable report for the half-year ending 31st December is anticipated, and the decline seems to be entirely owing to the stringency in the money market.

China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.—Shares are in demand in Hongkong at \$75 per share.

Yangtze Insurance Association.—A dividend of £21 per share was paid to the shareholders on the 18th inst. We do not alter the quotation on this account, as shares can doubtless find a market at our quotation ex dividend.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—There are sellers of this stock in Hongkong at \$385.

Chinese Fire Insurance Co.—Business has been done at \$72 ex. 73.

Selangor Tin Mining Co.—Business has been done at \$240.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—A special general meeting of the shareholders was held on the 18th inst. and an alteration in the Deed of Settlement was agreed to, enabling the Company to make a return to contributors of business, equal to that of the other Cargo Boat Co. No business in the shares to report.

Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation).—As there is no probability of further business in this stock, we have removed it from the list.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
<i>Bank.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co	40,000	\$125	\$125	3,198,336.43	\$52,509.62	30 June 83	* £2	28 Aug. 83	142 0½ prem.
Ditto New Issue	20,000	\$125	\$20	\$200,000.00	....	.....	£0½		137% prem.
<i>Shipping.</i>									
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£8,660.77	31 Mar. 83	3 %	24 July 83	£95
China Shipowners' Association	1,380	£100	£100	.....	£14,373.68	31 Mar. 83	+ 3 %	23 Feb. 83	£75
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ...	60,000	£10	£10	.....	£8,570.07	31 Dec. 82	None.		27½ discot.
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	£4,501.60	30 June 83	None.		£800
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£9,500.00	£198.03	31 Dec. 83	* 2 %	11 Jan. 84	245
Footung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	£965.44	31 Dec. 83	* 5 %	11 Jan. 84	120
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	£100	£100	£49,000.00	£19,389.08	31 Dec. 82	* 6 %	15 Jan. 84	160 ex div
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	£14,840.05	£11.86	31 Dec. 82	* 5½ %	26 July 83	145
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$600,000.00	\$107,411.65	30 Apl. 83	22 %	31 July 83	\$73
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	\$200	\$50	.....	.....	.....	£11.33	15 Jan. 84	£1,350
Union Ins. Society of Canton Ltd.	2,000	\$1,250	\$125	\$500,000.00	\$580,391.99	30 June 83	\$18.29	20 Oct. 83	\$610
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	8,000	\$25	\$25	\$50,000.00	.....	.....	6 %	18 Jan. 84	£910
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$100,378.44	£3,907.18	31 Dec. 82	* 2 %	2 Jan. 84	\$205
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$55,000.00	.....	31 Dec. 82	+ 10 %	1 Jan. 84	\$102½
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$861,000.00	\$250,732.56	31 Dec. 82	+ \$40 %	28 Feb. 83	\$385
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited ..	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$500,000.00	\$142,251.94	31 Dec. 82	+ 18 %	1 Mar. 83	\$72
<i>Wharfs.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,150	£100	£100	.....	.....	31 Dec. 82	* 10½ %	16 Aug. 83	£300
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company ...	2,100	£50	£50	£3,449.46	.....	31 Oct. 83	* 5 %	5 Dec. 83	£45
Footung Wharf & Godown Co.	1,750	£100	£100	.....	£2,539.21	31 Dec. 82	3 %	8 Aug. 83	£93
<i>Mining.</i>									
Selangor Tin Mining Co.	2,500	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	None.		\$240
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	3,000	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	.....	First year.		\$195
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£1,874.76	.....	30 Dec. 82	* 2 %	14 Aug. 83	£180
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. ...	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£2,508.07	30 Jun. 83	None.		£75
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	5,000	£20	£20	.....	.....	.....	None.		£20
Do. do. new issue	1,000	£5 pm. & £5 call	.....	.....	.....	.....	None.		£20
Shanghai Electric Co.	500	£100	£100	.....	£3,525.98	31 May 83	None.		£20
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. ...	5,000	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	None.		£29

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentures.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1875	£ 42,800.00	£ 100.00	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£104 nom.
Do. 1878	£ 24,000.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	£105 "
Lyceum Theatre Ordinary Debentures.	£ 17,000.00	£ 25.00	"	30th June.	£ 20 "
Do. Preference do.	£ 5,362.50	£ 37.50	5 %	31st Dec.	£ 20 "
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874	£ 627,615	£ 100	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£109½ "
Do. do. 1877	£ 1,604,276	£ 100	8 %	28th Feb. & 31st Aug.	£105½ "
Do. do. 1878	£ 1,949,500	£ 500	8 %	April and October.	£500 "
Do. do. 1881	£ 4,384,000	£ 500	8 %	December and June.	£500 "

* For half-year. † For year. ‡ A deficit. § Reserve for equalization of dividends. J. P. BISSET & Co.

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Octap-84 10

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Cures Ulcerated Sores on the neck.
Cures Ulcerated Sore Legs.
Cures Blackheads, or Pimples on the Face.
Cures Scoury Sores.
Cures Cancerous Ulcers.
Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.
Cures Glandular Swellings.

Clears the Blood from all impure Matter, From whatever cause arising.

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FOR 1884.

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NOTICE.

FROM this date, Mr. FREDERIC HENRY BALFOUR will assume the Editorship of the North-China Daily News and North-China Herald Newspapers, and will, until further notice, sign all receipts and Office Accounts, in the name of PICKWOD & Co.

Mr. ASTLE GREATHEAD is appointed Genera, Manager of the North-China Herald Office and all business communications should from this date be addressed to him.

JANET PICKWOD.

Shanghai, 1st September, 1891.

tf

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 180.

CHINA SEA.

Fog Signals at Fisher Island Lighthouse and other Stations.

NOTICE is hereby given that on and after the 1st January, 1884, the Fog Signal at Fisher Island Lighthouse, which at present is two guns with an interval of ten minutes between them, will be two guns with an interval of five minutes between them, and that when the signal has to be repeated a space of ten minutes will be allowed to elapse between the last gun of one signal and the first gun of the next.

It is also notified that when there is occasion to repeat the Fog Gun Signal at the following Light-Stations (at which no interval between signals has hitherto been established), the time between the last gun of one signal and the first gun of the next will be as shown below, on and after the 1st January, 1884.

Name of Light-station.	Interval between Signal Minutes.
Lamocks Lighthouse	12
Chapel Island Lighthouse	10
Ockseu	12
Turnabout	10
Middle Dog	15
West Volcano	10
Gutzlaff	15
North Saddle	10
Shaweishan	15
N. E. Shantung Promontory Light-house	10
Chefoo Lighthouse	8

Note.

The Fog Gun Signals for all the Lights at which they have been established are described in the printed List of the Chinese Lighthouses, Lightvessels, Buoys and Beacons. This List is published each year with corrections to the 30th November of the preceding year, and may be bought of Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, in Hongkong, Shanghai, and Yokohama.

By order of the Inspector General of

Customs,

A. M. BISBEE,

Coast Inspector.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Coast Inspector's Office,
Shanghai, 7th Dec., 1883.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 176.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

Temporary Withdrawal of the Tungsha Light-vessel

NOTICE is hereby given that, on or about the 1st December next, the Tungsha Light-vessel "Tungsha" will be removed from her station for repairs, and that she will be replaced by the Light-vessel "Newchwang."

The "Newchwang" will show a fixed white light which should be visible in clear weather at a distance of 11 nautical miles, and a small white light will be exhibited from the fore-stay at a height of 6 feet above the rail, to show the direction in which the vessel is heading. Her hull is painted red, with the word "Newchwang" in white on each side, and she has three masts, the main carrying a black ball.

During thick or foggy weather a steam Fog-horn will be sounded at intervals of 10 seconds.

The "Tungsha" will return to her station as soon as her repairs have been completed.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs,
A. M. BISBEE,
Coast Inspector.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Coast Inspector's Office,
Shanghai, 12th Nov., 1883.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS (SINCE REPORT PER LAST ISSUE.)

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & REG.	TON.	CAPTAIN.	FROM.	SAILED.	CARGO.	CONSIGNEES.
Jan 14	Wln-on	Br str	262	Carezzi	Hankow	Jan —	General	J. Baessler & Co
... 15	Kinngteen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	... 14	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Kiangyü	Chi str	2275	Knights	Hankow	... 12	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Hattie E. Tapley	Br bq	900	Finlayson	Sydney, N.S.W.	Nov 15	Conls	Russell and Co
... 15	Chinkiang	Br str	798	Herrmann	Hongkong v. Ningpo	Jan 9	General	Siemssen and Co
... 15	Waverley	Br str	404	Stout	Nagasaki	... —	Conls	Morris and Co
... 15	Yungning	Chi str	342	Lincoln	Wenchow	... —	General	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Hao-an	Chi str	869	Andrew	Wreck of Hwaiyuen	... 14	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Pao-chi	Chi str	544	Lancaster	Foochow	... 13	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Sunl	Br str	261	Scott	Swatow	... 12	do	G. McBain
... 15	Ichang	Br str	1249	Batten	Ningpo	... 15	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Fooksang	Br str	990	Hogg	Hongkong and Swatow	... 12	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Hideyoshi Maru	Jap str	456	Black	Kuchinotzu	... 13	Conls	M. B. Kaishia
... 15	Omega	Br bq	480	Brown	Nagasaki	... 10	Conls	Morris and Co
... 15	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	... 16	General	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Shanghai	Br str	1198	Martin	Hankow	... 14	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Chefoo	Br str	684	Hutchison	Chefoo	... 14	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Gekai Maru	Jap str	1084	Conner	Japan	... 9	do	M. B. M. S. S. Co
... 15	Taisang	Br str	718	Bamford	Glasgow, &c.	Nov 18	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Curçoa	H.M. corv	2380	Anstruther	Cruise	... —	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	Dec 17	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Taiwo	Br str	719	Friend	Hankow	... 15	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Pechili	Br str	880	Hurst	Nagasaki	... 15	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	Jan 18	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Kiang-foo	Chi str	1468	Morse	Hankow	... 16	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Baikal	Russ str	713	Danilovitch	Nagasaki	... —	Conls	Fearon, Low and Co
... 15	Mark Lane	Br str	1354	Porter	Hioo	... —	General	Adamson, Bell and Co
... 15	Oxus	Fr str	2422	Rapatel	Hongkong, &c.	... 16	Mails, &c	Messageries Maritimes
... 15	Ilitis	Ger g-b	420	Klaus	Hongkong	... —	Troops	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Payew	Chi str	920	Barfoot	Wuhu	... —	Conls	Fearon, Low and Co
... 15	Vindivostock	Russ str	678	Kmielevsky	Nagasaki	... —	General	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Taku	Br str	608	Davies	Foochow	... 18	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	... 19	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Ngankin	Br str	1921	Perks	Hankow	... 17	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Cyclops	Br str	1403	Jago	London, &c.	Nov 20	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	W. C. de Vries	Br str	669	Smith	Hankow	Jan 17	do	G. McBain
... 15	Famsui	Br str	919	Wyles	Amoy	... 18	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Kung Wo	Br str	737	Elag	Hankow	... 18	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	El Dorado	Br str	906	Young	Swatow & Amoy	... 18	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Lee-yuen	Chi str	734	Sims	Hongkong	... 15	do	C. M. S. N. Co

DEPARTURES (FROM THE ANCHORAGE AND WOOSUNG.)

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & REG.	TON.	CAPTAIN.	DESTINATION.	CARGO.	DISPATCHED BY
Jan 15	Benlarig	Br str	1481	Clark	London	Sundries	Gibb, Livingston & Co
... 15	Kiang-yung	Chi str	1037	Chang	Hankow and Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Store Nordiske	Dan str	595	Suensen	Cruise	do	G. N. Tel. Co.
... 15	Fukio Maru	Jap str	1146	Swain	N'aki, Hioo &c.	do	M. B. M. S. S. Co
... 15	Pekin	Br str	1274	McQueen	Hankow and Ports	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Wln-on	Br str	262	Carezzi	Hankow and Ports	do	J. Baessler & Co
... 15	Star of China	Br sh	794	Smith	Kuchinotzu	Ballast	Melchers & Co
... 15	Po-chi	Chi str	544	Lancaster	Chefoo	Sundries	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Fuh Wo	Br str	600	Davis	Hankow and Ports	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Yehsin	Chi str	754	Deegan	Foochow	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Hydaspes	Br str	890	Servener	Hongkong, &c.	Mails, &c.	P. & O. S. N. Co
... 15	Sunl	Br str	261	Scott	Hankow and Ports	Sundries	G. McBain
... 15	Hideyoshi Maru	Jap str	466	Black	Kuchinotzu	Ballast	M. B. Kaishia
... 15	Tyne	Br str	434	Hazard	Nagasaki	do	M. B. M. S. S. Co
... 15	Chinkiang	Br str	798	Herrmann	H'kong & Canton	Sundries	Siemssen and Co
... 15	Kiangyü	Chi str	2270	Knights	Hankow and Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Woosung	Br str	1109	Hunt	Amoy & Swatow	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Yungning	Chi str	324	Lincoln	W'chow v. Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Fuh-le	Br tug-b	101	Leatham	Hwaiyuen's wreck	Ballast	Morris and Co
... 15	Waverley	Br str	404	Stout	Nagasaki	do	Morris and Co
... 15	Shanghai	Br str	1198	Martin	Hankow and Ports	Sundries	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Chefoo	Br str	684	Hutchison	Chefoo	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 15	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Curçoa	H.M. corv	2380	G.J. Anstruther	Yangtze Ports	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Fooksang	Br str	991	Hogg	H'ko'g & Canton	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Sin Nanzing	Br str	714	Waddilove	Chefoo	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Taiwo	Br str	718	Friend	Hankow & Ports	do	Adamson, Bell and Co
... 15	Rambler	Am bq	1018	King	Nagasaki	Ballast	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Yungching	Chi str	661	Andrew	Hankow and Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Fayew	Chi str	920	Barfoot	Foochow	Troops	C. M. S. N. Co
... 15	Catherine Marsden	Br sm-sc	287	Danielsen	Nagasaki	Ballast	Morris and Co
... 15	Pechili	Br str	880	Hurst	Nagasaki	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 15	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	Sundries	Butterfield and Swire

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